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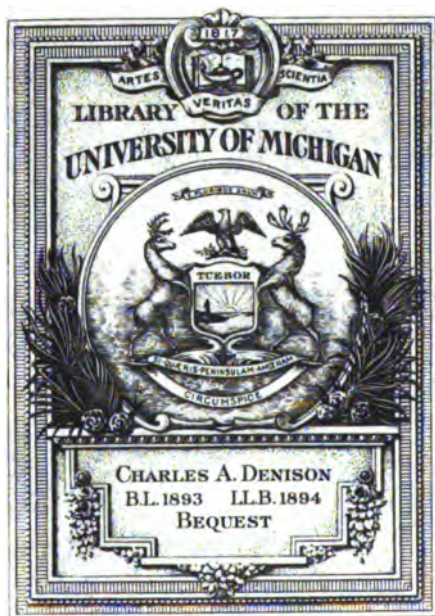
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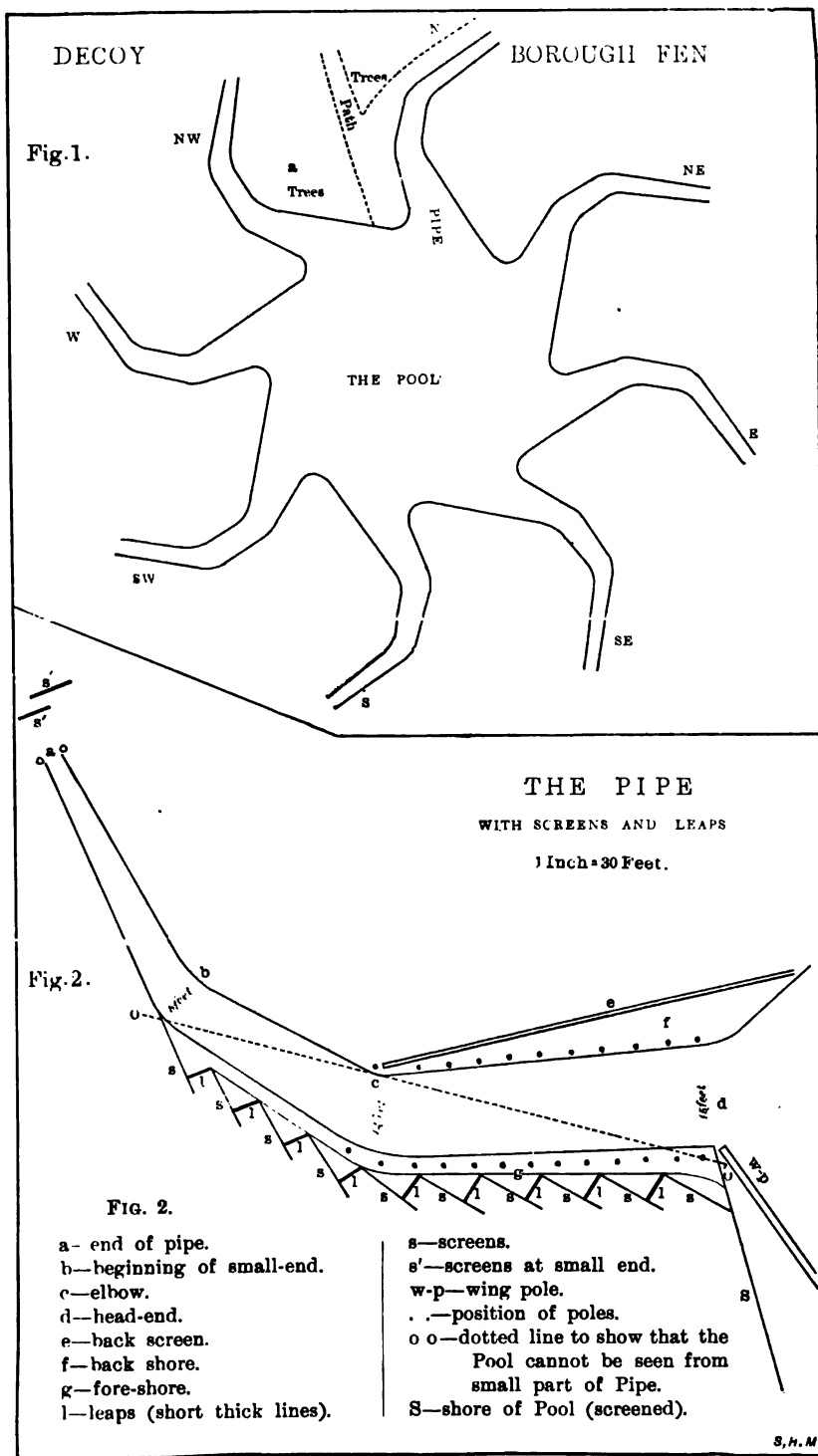
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# FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

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# FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

**A Quarterly Antiquarian Journal**  
**FOR THE FENLAND,**

**IN THE COUNTIES OF HUNTINGDON, CAMBRIDGE,  
LINCOLN, NORTHAMPTON, NORFOLK,  
AND SUFFOLK.**



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## *Errata.*

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*Page 25, line 7; for 1879 read 1779.*

*Page 104, line 10; for 1836 read 1536.*

*Page 127, line 3; for lagged read lugged.*

*Page 156, last line but one; for and read at.*

*Page 307, line 36; for Beryll read Beryll.*

*Page 351, line 40; for Excoomium read Encoomium.*



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# FENLAND

## NOTES & QUERIES.

**683.—Manors of Maxey and Northborough.**—The following Court Rolls have been found among articles for sale at a genealogical bookseller's in London. They are of earlier date than any now in the keeping of the Steward of the Manor.

**MANERIUM DE MAXEY** AD VISUM FRANCI plegii in Curia Baron ibidem tenta pro Honorabile Willelmo [Comiti] Fitzwilliam vicessimo quarto die Octobris Ao Dni 1717 Anno Regni Regis Georgij nunc Magne Brittan[nie] &c quarto et per adjournamentum contin[ua]t[ur] usque quartum diem Decembris tunc proxime sequentem

Coram

Johanne Eldred Ar Senescalco ibidem

**HOMAGIUM**

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Robertus Osborn Jur<br>Johannes Carter<br>Willelmus Laxton<br>Ricardus Goodman<br>Willelmus Riddington<br>Ebenezer Ewen<br>Cappitt Osborn<br>Henricus Watts<br>Franciscus Edmondson | }<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>} | Ricardus Paddy<br>Marmaducus Tomlinson<br>Josephus Clerk<br>Robertus Riddlington<br>Thomas Carter<br>Johannes Boulton<br>Amos Ewen<br>Johannes Measure | }<br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>} |
|---|--|--|--|

Constabularii De Maxey Willelmus Riddlington }  
Joell Hide } Electi

sunt in officio Illuc & Jurati sunt in officio predicto  
 Decimarius De Eadem Richardus Stamford Gen. Et Johannes  
 Measure Electi sunt & Jurati in eodem officio  
 Imperator de Eadem Georgius Searle et Stephanus Fall  
 contin[ua]t[ur] in eodem officio  
 Constabularius De Norborow Josephus Clerk Electus est &  
 Juratus in officio predicto  
 Decimarius de Eadem Johannes Boulton Electus est in Eodem  
 Officio & Juratus est in officio predicto



Constabularius de Deepingate Franciscus Blunt contin in eodem officio pro anno sequente

Decinarius De Eadem Ricardus Bradford contin in eodem officio

Imperator de Eadem Robertus Martin Electus est in officio illo et Juratus in eodem officio

Primo proclamacio facta pro heredibus Caroli Harford Armigeri admitti tenens ad trium rodas prati tentas De Domino predicto per copiam Curie Rotuli ejusdem ma[nerij]

84<sup>1</sup> Frances Bunning Spinster admissa est ad unum Cottagium & Septem acras terre et pasture Scituate jacentis & Existentis in Maxey predicta tente de Domino hujus Manerij per annualem redditum octo denariorum & unius oboli nuper Bimrose Et fecit domino predicto fidelitatem suam.

Matheus Turnell ut heres Elize Turnell Mater ejus defuncta admissus est ad tres acras terre in Le great Clayfeld in parochia de Norboro[w] cum pertinenciis per annualem redditum [blank] Et fecit Domino predicto fidelitatem

|                           |       |                  |       |
|---------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| Affirsors Robertus Osborn | } Jur | Thomas Carter    | } Jur |
| Johannes Carter           |       | Johannes Boulton |       |

Idem Juratores super eorum sacramentum presentant Aliciam Rippon viduam pro non Solucione quinque Solidorum per annum Constabulario de Maxey Secundum Jur(a?) ad ultimam Curiam in arreragijs Secundum Consuetudines Similiter presentant propriorem (name interlined, illegible) 3<sup>o</sup>: 4<sup>o</sup> pro non providendo pontem depastur( ) Comun( ) in palude boreali Similiter presentant eundem propriorem 1<sup>o</sup>: 19<sup>o</sup>: 11<sup>o</sup> quia emerg(it) dictum paludem ad nocumentum ovium in palude tale modo quod insani interiant ad magnum detrimentum eorum quorum Commune habent

#### Ordines per Homagium

It is ordred that all former orders not repealed shall stand good and be in force.

It is ordred that John Cattlin & Richard Goodman shall find and provide a sufficient Bull to goe with the herd in the Cow-pasture next on payne to forfeit to the Lord of the sayd Mannor.....£01: 10: 00

It is ordred that John Carter and Robert Tyers shall likewise find a sufficient Bull to goe with the Cows of Maxey the next summer or forfeit as aforesayd .....01: 10: 00

It is ordred that all ditches and dreynes needfull for conveying the water from the town and the fields and commons shall be well and sufficiently scowred to their old bottoms att the discreocoon of the Jury who are to view the same before the second day of February or each owner of the Lands abutting thereon shall forfeit to the Lord for every rood undone...00: 01: 00

It is ordred that the owner or occupyer of Maxey Mill doe keep and maintaine a wash for the water to runn out of the mill damm four foot wide and one foot deep below the Levell soyle of the meadow into the Shire river (vizt) between the meadows called West Deeping holmes & Maxey Holmes as formerly they used to doe for preserving the sayd Damme overflowing into the mill field etc in flood and for the scowring of the sayd Shire river when it is grown narrow on payne of forfeiting to the Lord for every default.....01: 00: 00

It is ordred that if any Commoners in the North-fenn or other commons belonging to Maxey Norborow or Deepingate

shall set their brand upon any sort of Cattle there that are not their own proper cattle such commoner shall pay to the fenn Reeve one shilling for every head & forfeit to the sayd Lord of the sayd manor for every head.....00 : 10 : 00

It is ordred that all persons who occupy any Lammas ground enclosed in Norborow shall Lay the sayd open common att Lammas day next as formerly they used to doe and soe from tyme to tyme or forfeit to the Lord of manner for every week each acre or such Lammas Grounds are not soe Layd opene

00 : 05 : 00

It is ordred that noe person shall drive any sort of cattle to and from in companys where the ways are narrow between standing corn & grass unlesse they leed them on payne for each offence to the sayd Lord.....00 : 03 : 04

It is ordred that the minister of Norborow shall find a sufficient bull for the Norborow Cows att all tymes hereafter as formerly used or forfeit to the sayd Lord of the sayd Manner for each month default the summe of.....01 : 00 : 00

It is ordred that the causeways which are now out of repaire in Deepingate streets be repaired by the owners before the twenty fifth day of March next or forfeit to the sayd Lord of the sayd Manner for each rood undone.....00 : 01 : 00

AD HANC Curiam venit in propria persona sua Matheus Turnell filius & proximus heres Elize Turnell vidue nuper mater ejus defuncte tenens Customarius Manerij predicti Et petit gratiam Domini ejusdem Manerij se admitti ad tres acras terre arrabillis jacentes in quodam campo vocato Le great Clayfield in parochia de Norborow cum pertinenciis Cujus Dominus per Senescallum suum predictum concessit ei inde Seizuram per virgam HABENDUM & TENENDUM sibi heredibus & assignatis suis de Domino predicto ad voluntatem Domini secundum consuetudines Manerij predicti Reddendum inde Annuatim duos Solidos & alia onera consuetudines & servicia inde prius debita et de Jure consueta data Domino De fyne pro ingressu suo inde habendum prout patet in margine Et admissus est inde tenens &c. Et fecit Domino fidelitatem.

ij<sup>s</sup>  
£ s d  
4 10 0

AD HANC Curiam venit Matheus Turnell in propria persona sua filius & proximus heres Richardi Turnell nuper pater ejus defuncti Tenens Customarius manerij predicti Et petit gratiam Domini ejusdem manerij Se admitti ad unum bondagium cum pertinenciis duas acras prati vocati le pingle ex parte orientali ejusdem bondagij unam acram prati in le north frith inter Regiam viam ex parte orientali & Le meadow dike ex parte boriali unam acram terre arrabillis vocatam Carvon head land unam Selionem terre in Barron furlong inter terras nuper Johannis Claypoole Armigeri ex parte boriali & austriali continentem per estimationem tres rodas unam acram terre arrabillis in doik furlong abutantem super ibidem & nuper predicti Johannis Claypoole versus occidentalem & unam dimidiam acram terre in le Middle feild inter terras nuper predicti Johannis Claypoole ex parte boriali & austriali, cum eorum pertinenciis. Cujus Dominus per Senescallum suum predictum concessit ei inde Seizuram per virgam habendum & tenendum heredibus & assignatis suis de Domino predicto ad voluntatem Domini secundum Consuetudines ejusdem manerij reddendum inde annuatim quatuordecim Solidos & alia onera consuetudines

W

xlij<sup>a</sup> & Servicia inde prius debita & de jure consueta data Domino  
 £ s d De fyne pro ingressu inde habendum prout patet in margine.  
 10 0 0 Et admissus est inde tenens. Et fecit Domino \* fidelitatem suam.

AD HANC eandem Curiam testatum est per Johannem Eldred Armigerum Senescallum ejusdem Manerij quod predicto vice-ssimo quarto die Octobris Maria P vidua tenens Customarius ejusdem Manerij hic in aperta Curia Surreddidit per virgam in manus Domini istius Manerij per manus dicti Senescalli unum Cottagium cum pertinenciis in Norborow nuper in occupatione Johannis Knight Ad opus & usum Francisci Broughton & Isabelle uxoris ejus pro termino vitarum suarum, & vite diutius viventis & ab & post decessum eorum ad opus & usum rectorum heredum ipsius Francisci Broughton in perpetuum.

ET MODO HIC AD HANC eandem Curiam venerunt predicti Franciscus & Isabella & petierunt gratiam Domini esse admitti ad Cottagium predictum virtute istius surredditione cui Dominus per Senescallum suum predictum concessit ei inde Seisuram per virgam HABENDUM ET TENENDUM eis modo et forma Domino predicto ad voluntatem Domini secundum consuetudines ejusdem manerij reddendum inde annuatim quatuor denarios & alia onera consuetudines & servicia inde prius debita & de jure consueta data domino de fyne pro ingressu suo inde habendum prout patet in margine Et admissi sunt inde tenentes et fecerunt Domino predicto fidelitatem.

Residentes de Maxey

Defaulters

Henricus Charity (1<sup>a</sup>) Johannes Freeman (1<sup>a</sup>) Johannes Northorn (1<sup>a</sup>) Ricardus Addington (1<sup>a</sup>) Ideo sunt in misericordia Domini sicut super eorum Capita separatim.

Imperator de Deepingate super sacramentum ejus presentat Thomam Hall (6<sup>a</sup> 8<sup>a</sup>) generosum quia fregit commune pound Ideo est in misericordia Domini (super) ejus caput.

Defaulters. Tenentes pro Terminis Annorum Johannes Featherstone (1<sup>a</sup>) Ricardus Figg (1<sup>a</sup>) Maria Field (1<sup>a</sup>) Alloin (1<sup>a</sup>) vidua Willelmus Exon (1<sup>a</sup>) Ideo sunt in misericordia Domini sicut super eorum capita separatim.

Defaulters Tenentes per copiam Curie rotuli ejusdem Manerij Heres Ricardi Halford (1<sup>a</sup>) Armigeri in Misericordia Domini sicut super ejus Caput

Defaulters Liberi Tenentes Beaver vidua Franciscus Blunt (1<sup>a</sup>) Willelmus Joyce (1<sup>a</sup>) Ideo sunt in misericordia Domini sicut super eorum Capita separatim.

Exhibitum per Johannem Eldred Senescallum ibidem.

MANERIUM AD CURIAM BARON ( ) Willelmi Comitis Fitzwilliam  
 DE tentam pro manerio predicto vice-ssimo quarto die octobris  
 NORBOROW [Anno] Dni Georgij nunc Regis Magne Britannie &c  
 Annoque Domini Millessimo Septingentesimo decimo septimo & ab inde Con [ ] per] adjournamentum usque  
 decimum tertium diem Novembris tunc proxime sequentem  
 Coram Johanne Eldred Armigero Senescallo Ibidem  
 Irrotulatur ut Sequitur

HOMAGIUM

|                      |       |                  |       |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| Marmaducus Tomlinson | Jur   | Willelmus Sisson | } Jur |
| Thomas Carter        | } Jur | Johannes Freeman |       |
| Johannes Boulton     |       | Thomas Giles     |       |
| Richardus Merriman   |       |                  |       |

\* Brasure: illegible: but amount given in margin.

AD HANC Curiam compertum est per homagium et presentatum est super sacramentum Marmaduci Tomlinson Tenen ( ) Customar ( ) hujus Manerij hic [ ] Johannes Measure alius tenens Customarius istius manerij viceesimo sexto die Novembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo decimo sexto sursum reddidit in [manus Domini] ejusdem manerij per manus dicti Marmaduci Tomlinson omnia Tenementa vel Cottagia in Deepingate cum pertinenciis ad eadem spectantibus cum Septendecim acris & dimidio te[rre] pasture jacentibus & existentibus in Deepingate field alias Maxey East field AD OPUS & veram intencionem ultime voluntatis dicti Johannis Measure Et ulterius [per] homagium predictum quod dictus Johannes Measure mortuus est ET POSTEA hic ad hanc eandem Curiam venit Maria Keisby vidua & relicta Henrici [Keisby] sui defuncti & filia dicti Johannis Measure et Johannes Keisby infans filius ejus et peterunt gratiam Domini se admitti ad unum Clausum jacens in Deepingate [ ] tres acras & unam roddam secundum vim formam et effectum dicte voluntatis geren [ ] date tricesimo die Maij Anno Domini millesimo Septingentesimo decimo sexto [ ] verba sequentia (vist) I give unto Mary the wido of Henry Keisby my daughter one Close in Deepingate field conteynyn of three acres [ ] dureing her naturall Life and after her decease to John Keisby her Son & my grandson & to his heires & assigns according to the custome [ ] that it belongs to Cui Dominus Manerij predicti ex gratia sua per Senescallum suum predictum concessit ei inde Selzuram per virgam HABENDUM ET TENENDUM eis modo [& forma] de Domino predicto ad voluntatem domini Secundum consuetudines ejusdem Manerij per redditus & servicia inde prius debita & de Jure consueta Salvo Jure Ouilbet, Et data [ ] inde habenda prout patet in margine Et admissi sunt inde tenentes predicta Maria fecit fidelitatem Sed fidelitas dicti Johannis respic(itur?) quia Infra etatem [ ] quod Clausum superadita est parcella copia Curie rotuli ejusdem Manerij geren ( ) data 10<sup>o</sup> die Aprilis 1690 Et de alia copia Curie Rotuli geren ( ) data 28<sup>o</sup> Sept. 1650.

AD HANC CURIAM Compertum est per homagium et presentatum est super sacramentum Marmaduci Tomlinson tenentis Customarii ejusdem Manerij quod Johannes Measure alius tenens Customarius istius Manerij viceesimo sexto die Novembris Anno Domini Millesimo Septingentesimo decimo sexto Sursum [reddidit] [in manus] dicti Domini Ejusdem manerij per manus dicti Marmaduci omnia tenementa vell cottagia in Deepingate cum pertinenciis ad inde spectantibus cum Septendecim acris & dim[idi]o pasture Jacentibus & existentibus in Deepingate field alias Maxey east field AD OPUS & veram intencionem ultime voluntatis dicti Johannis Measure Et ulterius [ ] per homagium quod predictus Johannes Measure mortuus est Et postea hic ad hanc eandem Curiam venit Johannes Measure nepos otis dicti Johannis Measure [& petit gratiam?] Domini se admitti ad unum messuagium sive tenementum scituat in Deepingate cum duabus Clausis abutt(antibus) super le north fenn continentibus unam acram [ ] ETIAM duas pecias terre arrabilis abutt(antes) super predict(um) Claus(um) continentes unam acram & dimidium ac etiam dimidium acram in eodem stadio abutt(antem) super illum Ac et[ia]m duas pecias terre continentes duas acras prope cuidam vie vocate French

way ex parte occidentali jacentes inter terras Willelmi Day Ac  
etiam duas pecias terre [ ] finem Clausi predicti Johannis  
& le Church way continentes unam acram & dimidium Ac  
etiam unam dimidium acram in le Lower Toftes abuttantem  
super foreram in tenur Anto [ ] quodam separaliter per  
terras continentes in simul per estimacionem Septem acras &  
dimidium cum eorum pertinenciis Ac etiam unam leasuram in  
Clauso Teigh Ar abuttantem super [ ] un Acr . . . .

There is much more, but it is more and more illegible and worn out. One final entry, at the foot of Roll inverted, is to much the same effect. The same names appear as in the preceding extracts. Ed.

**684.—The Villein.**—The Norman Conquest broke the continuity of the history of the peasantry of England. The ceorls of the Saxon are the villeins of Domesday; they proved the mass of the people. The word villanus or townsman bore no infamous meaning till the sixteenth century. Shakspeare speaks of

A trusty villain, Sir; that very oft,  
When I am dull with care and melancholy,  
Lightens my humour.

In England as in France the villanus was the peasant who held land by base tenure; just as the freeman held land freely; the former is the forerunner of the copyholder, holding by custom of the manor, the latter is our 40s. freeholder.

Yet the writ *de nativo capiendo* indicates a state of unfreedom about the life of the villein by descent. He was *adscriptus glebae*.

In Register Deeping, fo. 54 (A.D. 1414), is the following:—

Commissio pro Willo Pane nativo capiendo.

Omnibus X<sup>o</sup> fidelibus ad quos presentes litteræ pervenerint Johannes permissione divina Abbas de Burgo Sci Petri eternam in Dno Salutem. Noveritis nos ordinasse et constituisse dilcos nobis in X<sup>o</sup> Nichum Tourney armigerum et Willm Smyth de Scotere attornatos nostros communitim et divisim ad arrestand et seisand nomine nostro Willm Pane nativum nostrum de Scotere commorantem in Eboraco ut dicitur per nomen Willo

de Scotehorn cum omnibus bonis sequelis et catallis suis ratum habentes et gratum quicquid predicti Nichus et Willms attornati nostri seu eorum alter nomine nostro fecerit in premissis. In oujus rei testimonium presentes litteras nostras sigillo nostro signatas eis fieri fecimus patentes quamdiu nobis placuerit duratur. Dat apud Burgum Sci Petri xij<sup>o</sup> die Dec<sup>r</sup>. A<sup>o</sup>. R. R. Henr<sup>i</sup> V<sup>u</sup> primo.

This may be translated thus:—

Power to arrest William Pane, villein by birth.

To all faithful Christians to whom these presents shall come John by divine permission Abbot of Burgh Saint Peter greeting in the Lord. Know ye that we have appointed and established our beloved in Christ Nicholas Tourney, Esquire, and William Smyth of Sootere our attorneys jointly and severally to arrest and detain in our name William Payn of Sootere, our villein by birth now dwelling in York as it is said, by the name of William Scotehorn, together with all his goods belongings and chattels, we holding valid and authorized whatsoever the foresaid Nicholas and William our attorneys or either of them shall do in furtherance of the premisses. In witness whereof we have caused this present letter sealed with our seal, to be made patent so long as we shall please. Given at Burgh S<sup>t</sup>. Peter on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Dec<sup>r</sup>., in the first year of the reign of K. Henry V.

Villeins held land at will, rendering the services customary in the manors. The Court Rolls indicate that their holdings became hereditary, being regranted to the son by rule of primogeniture on payment of a heriot, the best ox. By the Rolls of the Court Baron the pedigree of the villein was tested as strictly as that of a peer. The *nativus* was valuable. Free in regard to all but his lord who could imprison him without fear of any writ of *habeas corpus*. In the Year Books in reports of trials for false imprisonment the plea of the defendant in bar of the right of action of trespass by reason of villeinage, is not uncommon.

Here is an example, anno 1294 :—

*Enprisonment.*—A porta un bref de enprisonement vers B.

*Plea.*—Il ne deit estre respondu car il est nostre vyleyn.

*Argument.*—Nus vus dirrum une verite, ky son pere fut nostre vyleyn et tint tere de nus, en meme la vyle e en meme county ou il fut pris, en vilynage, e engendra cely A : e cely A ala hors de nostre vilynage e puis revint, e nus le trovames sur son astre en son ny demeyne e le primes come nostre vileyn com ben list a chekun seynur.

The purport of this is as follows :—

*Imprisonment.*—A has a writ of imprisonment against B.

*Plea.*—He need not answer because he is our villein.

*Argument.*—We declare to you a truth, that his father was our villein, and held land of us, in the same town and county where he was taken, in villeinage, and there became father of A ; and the said A went away from our villeinage and afterwards came back ; and we found him on his hearth in the demesne of his birth, and took him as our villein, as is the right of every lord.

The obligations of base tenure did not, apparently, operate harshly. Flight is uncommon. This is the only instance in the time of Abbots Genge and Deeping : but in the Abbey Registers the entries of manumissions are numerous : the villein was fond of buying the freedom of his children.

At folio 24 of Abbot Woodford's Register is the manumission of William, son of Richard of Wetherington (that is, Werrington),\* conceded by the Abbot, "ob amorem Dni Roberti bone memorie quondam Abbatis predecessoris nostri et avunculi dicti Willi et ad instantiam boni viri fratris Hugonis de Sutton germani dicti Dni Roberti Abbatis. A°. Dni M°. CC. septuagesimo octavo in vigil Pentecost."

Admission into holy orders of persons born unfree was always preceded by manumission.

L. GACHES.

\* Fifty years later this family had acquired the name of Puttok.

**685.—Abbot's Coffin at Peterborough, opened 1743.—**

The following letter from Timothy Neve, Secretary of the Peterborough branch of the Gentlemen's Society, addressed "To Maurice Johnson jun<sup>r</sup>. Esq<sup>r</sup>. Secretary of the Gent. Soc. in Spalding," and now preserved among their papers, describes the discovery of an abbot's tomb at Peterborough in 1743. As far as I recollect no writer upon the cathedral alludes to this discovery.

Peterborough

Dear Sir

23 Feb. 1742-3

Last Friday in digging a grave for M<sup>rs</sup>. Fuller the sexton found a stone coffin in which was deposited the body of one of the abbots of this church, in the south aisle of the choir, near the shrine of St. Tibbe commonly called the Queen of Scots Monument. The coffin lay on the surface of the ground, the stone that covered it was part of the pavement, on which was his effigies formerly in brass with the inscription, but taken off in the days of sacrilege, so that we can now only guess who this abbot was. But by this manner of interment we may observe how cautious they were in opening the ground near the foundation, when their very abbots were not suffered to be laid lower than the depth of their coffin, lest they should weaken the foundation.

His body was quite perished; from head to foot 5 feet 2 inches long. He was clad with a velvet cope wrought or figured, bound with a good orrice pretty round, his pastoral staff covered with the same 4 foot long, the crozier was lead gilt, but upon the least touch mouldered away, this lay upon his right side; next to his head, on the same side, was an earthen chalice, and cover, of a thin pewter, with the impression of a rose upon it; the shoe soles sound and entire. The teeth both of the upper and nether jaw, by their number and soundness, shew he must be a young man probably at the time of his death. The coffin has not yet been searched, and no ring or money found. By the Dean's leave, the coffin is removed at present into the chapter house, where the sexton gets a good deal of money for shewing it.

Our church historians give us an account of three abbots being buried before the altar of St. Andrew: John of Chaux (Joannes de Caletto or Calceto), Richard of London, and William of Woodford, and I take the altar of St. Andrew to be originally at the east end of this Isle, as St. Peter's was the high altar in the east end of the choir, St. Paul's on the right hand on the north Isle, to which three Saints this Church was dedicated, whose images stand the most conspicuous, and in the same order, on the west front of the church.

Abbot Richard was 82 years old when he died, and is said to be *vir elegantis formæ et staturæ pulcherrimæ*, a tall handsome man, but this body measured only 5 foot 2 inches, which is too low a stature to answer this description, as well as too old, for having such a set of sound teeth.

William of Woodford's age is not mentioned, but it must be supposed that he was very ancient at the time of his death also, because it is said of him that he was appointed coadjutor to his predecessor Richard, and *in temporibus Joannis et Roberti Abbatum continuo domus negotia tam in Curia Regis quam alibi exagebatur*. We must suppose him pretty well advanced in years to be well enough acquainted with the interest and affairs of the monastery, before he was fit to be trusted with so arduous



an employment under three of his predecessors for 47 years together (for so long they governed here this monastery). He was at least 30 years of age, which added to 47 and the 4 years of his own abbacy will make his age fall little short of his predecessor Richard, so that he may be supposed at the time of his death to have no tooth in his head, and consequently not the abbot whose remains are just found.

Abbot John then seems to have the fairest claim to this dust. He was remarkably young when he was first made a monk, *quando septenis extiterit annis*. A Norman by birth, and nearly related to the Queen, brought over young into England, and educated at Winchester, advanced sooner than ordinary to be prior of Winchester, and from thence, *regis interveniente favore*, promoted, by the cession of William Hotot, to be abbot of this monastery, which he governed for thirteen years and died a young man.

He was also in the highest employments of the state, being at the time of his death thesaurarius Regni, and one of the judges itinerant, and dying at London his body was there embalmed, and wrapt up in lead for the better carriage, that upon his legs and thighs still remaining. This abbot has an extraordinary character by our historians, had an elegant taste of building, as appears from the beautiful remains of the infirmary which he built at his own expense. He is supposed to be the author of that Chronicle which goes under the name of *Ioannis Abbatis de Burgo S. Petri*, and which is continued by Robert of Boston, a monk of this house.

If these conjectures prove acceptable to you and the Society of Spalding, I shall be glad, and if true then this body has lain here 480 years since its interment, for he died A.D. 1262.

My service waits upon your good lady and family, the Society, &c.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant

Tim: Neve.

In printing the foregoing letter the abbreviations, capitals, and punctuation of the original have not been strictly adhered to, and modern spelling (such as aisle, in the letter spelt isle) has been adopted.

It appears that the shrine of S. Tibba was situated in the south choir aisle, and so near the spot where Mary Queen of Scots was interred, that it was commonly supposed to be a memorial of her. By "crosier" the writer seems to have meant the crook at the head of the pastoral staff. Ed.

**686.—Ealdorman Brihtnoth (670).**—Two correspondents from Ely, the Rev. K. H. Smith and the Rev. C. Butler, inform us that the remains of Ealdorman Brihtnoth are carefully preserved at Ely. They are in a *capsula*, or small chest, in the wall in Bishop West's chapel. The niches are plainly inscribed with the name.

**687.—Deeping Fen.**—The accompanying papers relating to Deeping Fen will, I think, be of interest.

C. DACK.

(1)

1744. Received the day and year first within written of the within named Thomas Hurst the Sum of thirty pounds Six Shillings being the Consideration money within mentioned to be paid unto me for the use of the Undertakers for draining Deeping Fenns &c. in the County of Lincoln.

J. B.

(2)

Rec<sup>d</sup>. the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1748 [date erased] of M<sup>r</sup>. Bayley Seven pounds Sixteen Shill<sup>g</sup>. for the draining tax of three shill<sup>g</sup>. an acre for Fifty two acres of land in Deeping Fenns &c. in the County of Lincoln for the year 1747: Rec<sup>d</sup>. for the use of the Undertakers for draining the s<sup>d</sup>. Fenns.

By me

Mees<sup>r</sup> Bayley  
£7: 16: 0

J<sup>no</sup> Blackwell  
Receiver

Rec<sup>d</sup>. at the same time one pound seventeen shill<sup>g</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>. for the penalty of ninespence an acre for not paying the tax on or before the tenth of Nov<sup>r</sup>. last

1: 17: 6

J<sup>no</sup>. Blackwell

Sir

(3)

I shall be obliged to you if you cast your Eye on the enclosed letter & let me know what Answer to give. I am not very well or would have waited upon you

I am

Your obt Serv<sup>t</sup>

Geo Denashire

To M<sup>r</sup> Denshire 20 Mar. 1748.

There stood in the name of M<sup>r</sup>. Everard 255: ac<sup>o</sup> of taxable land but since his faileing I find 106: acres of them belongs to M<sup>r</sup>. Everard of Hitchin & for which he has paid the year's tax, so that there rem<sup>d</sup>. due for M<sup>r</sup>. Henry Everards land which is 148: ac<sup>o</sup>. (he haveing sold one to a man on which he has built a Cottage) at 2<sup>s</sup>. an acre 14: 16: 0: w<sup>ch</sup> sh<sup>d</sup> have been p<sup>d</sup> on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup>. last w<sup>ch</sup> not being then p<sup>d</sup>. is lyable to a forfeiture of 6<sup>d</sup>. an ac<sup>o</sup> more & if both not p<sup>d</sup> before the next April meeting the lands will be Sequestred but as the affair is Circumstanced & the Mortgagee not acquainted with it if it is forthwith p<sup>d</sup>. I will take it without the forfeiture of 6<sup>d</sup>. an ac<sup>o</sup> and am

Y<sup>r</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. Blackwell

(4)

Rec<sup>d</sup> the of 1761: of Jones Raymond Esq<sup>r</sup>. Seventy one pounds eleven Shill<sup>g</sup> for the draining tax of 3<sup>s</sup>. an acre for 477 acres of land in Deeping Fenns &c in the County of Lincoln for the year 1761: Rec<sup>d</sup> for the use of the Undertakers for draining the s<sup>d</sup>. Fenns

By J<sup>no</sup> Blackwell  
Receiv<sup>r</sup>

I have also John Blackwell's Original Account Book of Taxes levied for the Drainage of Deeping Fen, from 1744 to 1764. The tax varied in amount each year. The earliest account is here given, the names of the owners, the extent of their lands, and the amount of the tax upon them, being printed at full; the payments are given in summary.

Deeping Fenn draining Tax of 2<sup>d</sup>. an acre for 10036 acres of Taxable land laid on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 1744

|   | Ac.          | R. | P.  | £   | s.          | d.          |
|---|--------------|----|-----|-----|-------------|-------------|
| S <sup>r</sup> Fran. Whichcote Barr <sup>t</sup> .....  | 134          | 3  | 10  | ... | 13          | 9 7½        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Hen: Everard.....  | 255          |    |     | ... | 25          | 10 0        |
| Charles Bertie Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 256          |    | 17½ | ... | 25          | 12 2½       |
| John Blackwell Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 250          |    |     | ... | 25          | 0 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Fran: Howgrave .....   | 96           |    |     | ... | 9           | 12 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Bayley & M <sup>r</sup> . Ireland .....  | 52           |    |     | ... | 5           | 4 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Ch: Bletsos & M <sup>r</sup> . Ja <sup>s</sup> . Digby.....  | 65           | 3  | 21  | ... | 6           | 11 9½       |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Bigland .....  | 106          |    |     | ... | 10          | 12 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Tho <sup>s</sup> . Hurst .....   | 258          |    |     | ... | 25          | 16 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Tho <sup>s</sup> . Mason & L Fergue.....   | 60           |    |     | ... | 6           | 0 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . John Hurne .....   | 261          |    |     | ... | 26          | 2 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Tho <sup>s</sup> . Norton.....   | 30           |    |     | ... | 3           | 0 0         |
| William Fortrey Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 500          |    |     | ... | 50          | 0 0         |
| Edw <sup>d</sup> Stephenson Esq <sup>r</sup> . late Newland.....  | 407          | 2  |     | ... | 40          | 15 0        |
| Cap <sup>t</sup> . Collett &c .....   | 158          |    |     | ... | 15          | 16 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Tho. Rob <sup>t</sup> . Gates .....  | 40           |    |     | ... | 4           | 0 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . John Hepburne.....   | 98           | 2  |     | ... | 9           | 17 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Ja <sup>s</sup> . Digby .....  | 295          | 2  |     | ... | 29          | 11 0        |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Geo: Denshire .....  | 74           |    |     | ... | 7           | 8 0         |
| Rev <sup>d</sup> . M <sup>r</sup> . Dennis Cumberland .....   | 74           |    |     | ... | 7           | 8 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Tho <sup>s</sup> : Mason .....   | 53           |    |     | ... | 5           | 6 0         |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Hen: Hurrey (late M <sup>r</sup> Brown) .....  | 60           | 2  |     | ... | 6           | 1 0         |
| The R <sup>t</sup> . Hon <sup>ble</sup> L <sup>d</sup> Brownlowe Bertie (to be<br>p <sup>d</sup> by Lady Mary Bertie & W <sup>m</sup> . Hardwick<br>Esq <sup>r</sup> . 2 Trustees by the late Duke of<br>Ancaster's Will) ..... | 265          |    |     | ... | 26          | 10 0        |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> . Horne Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 120          |    |     | ... | 12          | 0 0         |
| Jacob Preston Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 90           |    |     | ... | 9           | 0 0         |
| Will <sup>m</sup> . Perry Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 602          |    |     | ... | 60          | 4 0         |
| Alex <sup>r</sup> . Wilson Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 1224         | 3  | 30  | ... | 122         | 9 9         |
| John Wilson Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 250          |    |     | ... | 25          | 0 0         |
| Ja <sup>s</sup> . Fortrey Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 250          |    |     | ... | 25          | 0 0         |
| Ja <sup>s</sup> . Lamb Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 120          |    |     | ... | 12          | 0 0         |
| Jones Raymond, Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 477          |    |     | ... | 47          | 14 0        |
| Smith Esq <sup>r</sup> .....  | 766          | 2  |     | ... | 76          | 18 0        |
| Hutton Perkins Esq <sup>r</sup> .....   | 1133         | 1  | 23  | ... | 113         | 6 9½        |
| S <sup>r</sup> . Geo: Champion Kn <sup>t</sup> .....  | 538          | 0  | 19  | ... | 53          | 18 2½       |
| M <sup>r</sup> . Is: Grove .....  | 264          | 2  |     | ... | 26          | 9 0         |
| Rev <sup>d</sup> . M <sup>r</sup> . Sam <sup>l</sup> . Grove .....  | 285          | 2  | 24  | ... | 28          | 11 3½       |
| Lands lost or concealed .....   | 63           | 0  | 25½ | ... | 6           | 6 3½        |
| <b>Totall.....</b>  | <b>10036</b> |    |     |     | <b>1008</b> | <b>12 0</b> |

Of this amount little more than 70 per cent. was collected before the accounts for the year were made up. The total receipts may be thus summarised, omitting fractions of a penny:—Balance, 1743, £318 6s. 0d.; Tax, 1744, less allowances, £701 14s. 0d.; "Purchase money for Mr. Beaver's Fenn Land, £90 6s. 0d. and tax of 6s. 8d. an acre part of 16s. 8d. an acre, 1741," £118 19s. 4d.; Arrears, £162 17s. 9d.; Borrowed on interest, £400: Total, £1701 17s. 10d. The

payments were these :—Mr. Grundy, £1370 ; Mr. Thompson, £78 10s. 0d. ; Messrs. Ward & Kitson, £44 13s. 8d. ; Mr. Digby, £4 4s. 0d. ; Mr. Blackwell's Salary, £40 : Total, £1537 7s. 8d. There was accordingly a balance in hand of £164 9s. 5d.

Two shillings an acre is the smallest tax levied during the 21 years. This was the tax on six occasions ; nine times the tax was 3s. ; twice, 4s. ; three times, 5s. ; and once, in the last year, 1764, it rose to 10s. an acre. The cause of this extraordinary expenditure does not appear, as the payments for 1764 are not included in this account-book. The receipts for the year came to £4920 19s. 10d.

A few separate items, taken from the expenses of different years, may be given.

|      |  | £   | s. | d. |
|------|--|-----|----|----|
| 1746 | P <sup>d</sup> Mr. Hodshon by bill on Childs & Co. payable to him or ord <sup>r</sup> . & sent to Mr. Newlands the costs taxed for dismissing our bill ag <sup>t</sup> . him ..... | 28  | 6  | 2  |
| 1747 | P <sup>d</sup> Mr. Scribo a bill for Surveying the Fenn Works.....   | 11  | 11 | 0  |
| 1751 | (Mr. Blackwell put this item in his accounts, but it was "not allowed") Post letters sent & rec <sup>d</sup> for 23 years past .....   | 10  | 0  | 0  |
| 1753 | P <sup>d</sup> Mr. Exel his Charges attending last April meeting at Spalding .....   | 12  | 1  | 8  |
| 1755 | P <sup>d</sup> Mr. Rosby on acc <sup>t</sup> of Stoneing Deeping Bank as by his & Mr. Jn <sup>o</sup> . Digby's Rec <sup>t</sup> . .....   | 100 | 0  | 0  |
| 1757 | Law charges.....   | 48  | 15 | 0  |
| 1760 | P <sup>d</sup> Mr. Exel ball <sup>ce</sup> of his bill in the Second Tythe Cause   | 35  | 7  | 10 |
|      | P <sup>d</sup> . Mr. Mason's bill of Law Charges in the Causes for the K's Tax .....   | 20  | 5  | 0  |

688.—**Frampton and Kirton.**—I find a very great difficulty in obtaining materials for the history of these parishes, and should be much obliged to any correspondent who could suggest to me any source of information that I have failed to discover. Mr. Thompson, the author of the *History of Boston*, told me some years ago that he had been trying for a long time, but could find little of any value relating to the parishes lying near Boston on the south. Why this should be I cannot understand. Each parish bears evidence of its being the home of wealthy and influential families in the middle ages. Not only do the fine churches indicate this, but the moats and

other remains of what must have been stately residences, distinctly show it.

There are hardly left even traditions of the former importance of these places. In the well known manuscript of Colonel Holles, who in 1642 traced so many of the coats of arms existing at that date in the churches of South Lincolnshire, we have proof of the fact that some old gentle, if not noble, families, were connected with Frampton and Kirton. It is true that he was unable to identify all the coats of arms, nor have I been successful in finding many that he failed to recognise. In Frampton church, restored in 1891, those that he could name were made good : but this applies to seven only out of the ten he described. No record can be found of other families to which the remaining shields can be assigned. At Kirton there are as many as twenty-four which have been identified : and these are now being restored : but here again are several that are unknown, especially one Gough says is found in each window over the Altar. Kirton, some 400 years ago, was the third town in size in all Lincolnshire ; it had a gaol and Sessions-house, and gave its name to the Hundred. In still earlier times it was the capital of the Kingdom or Earldom of Mercia : now it is only a large village, but formerly had two fairs and a weekly market.

Much irreparable damage has been done to the cause of local history by over-zeal Clergy and Churchwardens, who often destroyed old records and manuscripts that they could not understand. Fifty years ago a Clergyman boasted that he had got rid of some interesting memorials "because they looked untidy." Visitations of the Heralds do not help much : Registers are too modern. Parliamentary Writs, Rotuli Hundredorum, and the like, are some help, but they only make one long for more.

There still exists in Kirton a fine castellated entrance and guardroom to what must have been a large baronial residence, if we may judge by its extensive moat and external walls,

some of which only disappeared about 125 years ago. Many shields are on this ruin, some known and others not ; from the arms of Roos being most prominent externally, I imagine they were the owners, but I have no record of their having lived in Kirton, although they did in some parishes not far distant. Information hereon is particularly desired.

C. T. J. MOORE, F.S.A.

**689.—Dean Rainbow.**—Edward Rainbow was born at Bliton, in Lincolnshire, on 20 April, 1608. His father, Thomas Rainbow, of Christ's College, Cambridge, was then Rector of the place ; afterwards he became Rector of Winteringham in the same county, both livings being in the patronage of the Wray family of Glentworth. His mother was Rebecca, daughter of David Allen, Rector of Ludborough, Lincolnshire. In 1619 Edward went to Gainsborough school, but in 1620 he went to the King's School, Peterborough, and was appointed Grammar Scholar there on the nomination of Dr. Williams, one of the prebendaries. But he only remained a little over a year, when he proceeded to Westminster School, Dr. Williams having become Dean of Westminster. Before he was sixteen he went to Christ Church, Oxford, of which house his elder brother was a member, and ultimately (at his death) a fellow. In 1625 he migrated to Magdalene College, Cambridge, where he was nominated to a scholarship on the Wray foundation, by Frances, Countess Dowager of Warwick, daughter of the Lord Chief Justice, Sir Christopher Wray. To the Wray family he owed his advancement in life. It has been seen that his father obtained his church preferment from the Wrays. Edward Wray, of Rycot, brother to Sir John Wray, was Godfather to Edward Rainbow ; and to the two brothers, Sir John and Edward, Rainbow dedicated his first printed sermon. He took his B.A. degree in 1627, and became M.A. in 1630, then only 22 years old. In the same year he went to be master at Kirton school, Lincolnshire, to

which post he was appointed by Sir John Wray. He had been living in retirement at Barnwell, near Oundle, with his mother's sister, Mrs. Boteler, "by reason of the hot sickness." He did not stay long at Kirton, and is soon found living in Fuller's Rents, in London, and afterwards at Sion College. In 1633 he was Chaplain at Lincoln's Inn, but for three months only, being supplanted by one "with a louder voice." The curacy of the Savoy chapel employed him till 1634; in January of that year he was pre-elected to the first vacancy of a foundation fellowship, and in June was admitted fellow for Dr. Gooch. He had a considerable reputation as a preacher; his style was not florid or poetical, but distinguished by force and simplicity. He was celebrated too for "prompt and facetious wit." Among his pupils at Magdalene were two sons of the Earl of Suffolk, and two sons of Lord Daincourt. In 1639 he was Dean of the College, and in 1642 he became Master. From this he was ejected in 1650 for refusing "the Engagement." It is difficult to follow the Doctor (he became D.D. when elected to the Mastership) during the Commonwealth. But he was not without substantial assistance from his powerful friends. In 1652 the Earl of Suffolk gave him the living of Little Chesterford, Essex; in the same year he married Elizabeth, daughter of his predecessor in the Mastership, Dr. Henry Smith. In 1659 he became Rector of Benefield, Northants., through the influence of the Earl of Warwick, being exempted from examination by "the Triers."\*

In 1660 he makes the following petition†:—

To the Kings most excellent Ma<sup>tie</sup>, the humble peticon of Edw. Rainbowe  
Dr. in Divinity & one of yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ties</sup> chaplains in Ordinary.

Humbly Sheweth

That yo<sup>r</sup> petitioner by the tyranny of the late times having been ejected out of his Mastership of Magdalen College in University of Cambridge (it being all the livelihood wch he then had) for his loyalty to yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> & yo<sup>r</sup> royall father of blessed Memory by wch yo<sup>r</sup> peticoner hath been much impoverished.

May it please yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> to conferre upon yo<sup>r</sup> petit<sup>r</sup>. the Deanery of Peterborough now vacant in wch diocese yo<sup>r</sup>. Petit<sup>r</sup> residence is

And yo<sup>r</sup> Pet<sup>r</sup>. shall pray &c.

\* Commissioners for approbation of ministers. The Ordinance of 1663 for the trial of public preachers and lecturers, and to supply vacant places with able and fit persons to preach the Gospel. The certificate was to be as sufficient as institution and induction.

† S.P. Dom. Charles II. 12.

The Doctor was restored to his Mastership in 1660, and in 1661 was appointed Dean of Peterborough. On going there in August he found Major Alexander Blake had left three old almswomen in possession of the Deanery. The Major had lost confidence in his title guaranteed by the Public Faith. He prudently removed his furniture and petitioned the Commissioners for the Sale of Church Lands to extend the King's grace to him and to afford him some equitable accommodation. Times had changed. The Major had been a decimator under Major-Genl. Butler; had been a High Court of Justice man in Norfolk; had opposed the assembly of the inhabitants of Peterborough to address Genl. Monk concerning a free Parliament; and now he asked for favour! His title was not worth the paper it was written on.

The Dean was not long in residence. In 1662 he was acting as Vice-Chancellor of the University, and in 1664 was made Bishop of Carlisle, where he presided till 1684. He was buried in Dalston church yard, and there is this simple inscription over his grave:—

Depositum Edwardi Rainbow, Episcopi Carliol.

Qui obiit xxvi Martii A°. Dn'. MDCLXXXIV.

He was offered the see of Lincoln in 1668; but a great lady about the court interfered and secured the appointment for a relative.

Two short sets of verses are attributed to him. They are given in Tully's Life (1688) but are of no importance. Dean Duport, who succeeded Dean Rainbow at Peterborough, was not likely to have neglected so excellent an opportunity as was given by the surname of his predecessor. He delighted in Latin puns and jokes. Accordingly we find a set of Alcaics by him, entitled:—"In Iridem, seu Arcum Coelestem. Ad Reverendum admodum in Christo Patrem, Edvardum Rainbow, Episcopum Carliolensem." There are ten stanzas. His name is an omen of his character. The last stanza may be taken as a specimen of the humour:—



Coeli ut decus ros et color Iridis,  
 Episcopalis sic decus Infule  
 Tu rore verbi, et luce vitæ,  
 Iri Pater, venerande Præsul.

He, Bishop Rainbow, only published three sermons:—

1. Preached at S. Paul's Cross, 28 Sep., 1634, on "Labour forbidden and commanded."
2. Preached at funeral of Susanna, Countess of Suffolk, 13 May, 1649.
3. Preached at funeral of Anne, Countess of Pembroke, Dorset, and Montgomery, at Appleby, Westmorland, 14 Apr., 1676.

L. GACHES.

**690.—Peterborough Feoffees' Accounts (553).**—The following summary of the accounts from 1613 to 1640 has been prepared from a transcript, made by Mr. Geo. T. Nichols, of Peterborough, of the earliest minute book belonging to the Feoffees. This book had for some time been lost; but it was recovered and restored to its true owners. A note at the commencement, dated 28 July, 1853, says:—"This Minute Book was reclaimed (having been lost some considerable period) and presented to the Feoffees of Peterborough by the undersigned Sam<sup>l</sup> C. W. Buckle."

The earliest account is for 1614. The receipts only are entered at full; all the particulars of the expenditure used to be engrossed on parchment and preserved in the chest in the church vestry. One of these parchments has strayed into the keeping of the Feoffees themselves, and has been already printed at full in *Fenland Notes and Queries*, Art. 553. The total expenses are given each year in the minute book, generally in some such form as is here taken from the year 1614:—

Paied and layed out by the said Accomptantes towards the repaire of the bridge and the repaire of our parishe Church, & to the releifs of the porer sort within the said Citty of Peterboroughe accordinge to the uses specyfyed in our deedes as by the particulers thereof more at lardge sett downe in the accompte ingrossed in parchement and remaineing in the greate cheste in the vestrye, apereth £43. 16s. 1d.

The late Mr. S. C. W. Buckle supplied the Editor with several interesting items from this book ; and most of what he so sent has been already printed in these pages.

The summary of the accounts for 1613 is from Art. 553 ; the remaining years are from this book.

|   | £   | s   | d     |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| 1613 Rents, including sums received from those that stood under the Market Cross, £26. 19. 6 ; Arrears, £4. 19. 4 ; For use of Church, £2. 17. 0 ; Wood sold, £8. 7. 2 ; Borrowed from Town Stock, £16. 10. 0 ; Fines, £16. 3. 0.....   | 75. | 16. | 0     |
| Discharge .....   | 75. | 13. | 2     |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 2.  | 10    |
| The arrears still due, including rents, fines, and balance owing from last balliff, were £13. 15. 5   |     |     |       |
| 1614 In hand, 2. 10 ; Rents, £40. 12. 0 ; Arrears, £8. 5. 0 ; Lime, &c., sold, 3. 6 ; Wood sold, £4. 16. 4 ; For use of Church, 6. 8 ; Borrowed from Town Stock, £1 .....   | 55. | 6.  | 4     |
| Discharge .....   | 46. | 16. | 1     |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 8.  | 10. 3 |
| 1615 In hand, £8. 10. 3 ; Rents, £40. 11. 0 ; Arrears, £1. 10. 0 ; For use of Church, £1. 1. 0 .....  | 51. | 12. | 3     |
| Discharge .....   | 48. | 4.  | 4     |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 3.  | 7. 11 |
| 1616 In hand, £3. 7. 11 ; Rents, £40. 10. 2 ; Paper book sold, 3. 6 ; Wood sold, 10. 0 ; Interest, £4. 15. 4 .....  | 49. | 6.  | 11    |
| Discharge .....   | 46. | 17. | 8     |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 2.  | 9. 3  |
| 1617 In hand, £2. 9. 3 ; Rents, £40. 10. 0 ; Wood sold, 17. 0 ; Slate sold, 3. 0 ; Interest, £2. 19. 0 ; "Receyved of thinhabitants of Alwalton for a part of the mony laid about the fenne bankes as more particularly appeareth in our accompt," 8. 6 ; Rent of Mr. Hake's house given to the Poor, £1. 3. 4..... | 48. | 10. | 1     |
| Discharge .....   | 49. | 17. | 0     |
| Balance due to Balliffs .....   |     | 1.  | 6. 11 |
| 1618 Rents, £40. 9. 0 ; Arrears, 10. 0 ; "Given by the Right Ho <sup>rs</sup> . the Earle of Exeter towards the charge of the Towne Hall," £5 ; Interest, £2. 8. 0 ; Rent of Mr. Hake's house, £1. 3. 4 .....   | 49. | 10. | 4     |
| Discharge .....   | 49. | 0.  | 10    |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 9.  | 6     |
| 1619 In hand, 9. 6 ; Rents, £40. 11. 7 ; Interest, £2. 16. 0 ; Gift, 4. 0 ; Rent of Mr. Hake's house, £1. 3. 4 ...  | 45. | 4.  | 5     |
| Discharge not entered ; but from the balance given in the next year it must have been .....   | 36. | 0.  | 1     |
| Balance (credited 1620) .....   |     | 9.  | 4. 4  |
| 1620 In hand, £9. 4. 4 ; Rents, £36. 15. 10 ; Interest, £2. 16. 0 ; Wood sold, £2. 4. 0 ; Rent of Mr. Hake's house, £1. 3. 4 ; Gifts, 8. 0 ; Damages to stairs repaid by Players, 3. 4 .....  | 52. | 14. | 10    |
| Discharge .....   | 35. | 12. | 3     |
| Balance in hand .....   |     | 17. | 2. 7  |

|         |  | £    | s               | d               |
|---------|--|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1621    | In hand, £17. 2. 7; Rents, £31. 15. 0; Wood sold, 14. 0; Lime, &c., sold, 4. 0; Gifts, 8. 0; Interest, £2. 17. 0; Rent of Mr. Hake's house, £1. 3. 4...  | 54.  | 3.              | 11              |
|         | Discharge .....  | 50.  | 9.              | 11              |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 3.   | 14.             | 0               |
| 1622    | In hand, £3. 14. 0; Rents, £25. 7. 0; Arrears, £5. 0. 0; Wood sold, 2. 6; Interest, £3. 2. 0; Rent of Mr. Hake's house, £1. 3. 4 .....   | 38.  | 8.              | 10              |
|         | Discharge .....  | 28.  | 0.              | 9               |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 10.  | 8.              | 1               |
|         | Of this balance £3 was at once paid to John Davye "by consent."  |      |                 |                 |
| 1623-25 | One half year's rents are entered only, no other accounts. At the end of three years is this:—"Imprimis they have made there accompt before these whose names are underwritten, w <sup>ch</sup> beinge examined they have allowed and there remayneth due unto them £vi. xviii. iiid. besides £xxx principall and £v use by them due by their bonds (vs) £x to S <sup>r</sup> Humphrey Orme Kn <sup>t</sup> . and to Jo: Dickinson £xx and use £v w <sup>ch</sup> is in toto £xli. xviii. iiid." |      |                 |                 |
|         | Balance due to Bailiffs.....   | 41.  | 18.             | 3               |
| 1626    | No accounts.   |      |                 |                 |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 8.   | 9.              | 8               |
| 1627    | Total receipts, no particulars .....   | 51.  | 4.              | 8               |
|         | Discharge .....  | 50.  | 17.             | 6               |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 7.   | 2               |                 |
|         | This balance was immediately spent:—"disbursed at the meting," 2. 8; "delivered into the hands of Thomas Hall fen reave to the amending of the fenne gate and fenne banks belonginge to the towne," 4. 6   |      |                 |                 |
| 1628    | Rents, £35. 10. 2; Gifts, £25. 0. 0; Arrears, £28. 16. 2; Fines, £16. 0. 0; Hire of Town Hall by Players, 1. 0 .....   | 105. | 7.              | 4               |
|         | Discharge .....  | 90.  | 14.             | 8               |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 14.  | 12.             | 7               |
|         | (Probably both these last two sums should be $\frac{1}{2}$ d. more: the balance next year is so given.)  |      |                 |                 |
| 1629    | In hand, £14. 12. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Rents, £39. 8. 8; Wood sold, 5. 0; Arrears, £4. 17. 6 .....  | 59.  | 3.              | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|         | Discharge .....  | 55.  | 9.              | 8               |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 3.   | 14.             | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1630    | In hand, £3. 14. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Rents, £37. 18. 2; Arrears, £4. 1. 4.....   | 45.  | 14.             | 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|         | Discharge .....  | 45.  | 7.              | 0               |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 7.   | 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                 |
| 1631    | In hand, 7. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Rents, £36. 14. 2; Arrears, £1. 8. 4; Wood sold, 1. 0; Paid off bond, £1. 10. 0 .....  | 40.  | 0.              | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|         | Discharge .....  | 39.  | 18.             | 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 1.   | 11              |                 |
| 1632    | In hand, 1. 11; Rents, £43. 12. 1; Arrears, 18. 8; Interest, £3. 16. 2.....  | 48.  | 8.              | 10              |
|         | Discharge.....   | 47.  | 16.             | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|         | Balance in hand .....  | 12.  | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ |                 |

|  | £    | s   | d  |
|--|------|-----|----|
| 1633 In hand, 12. 8½; Rents, £44. 8. 11; Mrs. Swinscoe's Gift, £60. 0. 0; Interest, £7. 9. 1; Sundry payments "Injoynd by the Comishyoners," apparently in respect of underpayments in past years, £16. 10. 5.....   | 129. | 1.  | 1½ |
| Discharge .....  | 127. | 18. | 9  |
| Balance in hand .....  | 1.   | 2.  | 4½ |
| 1634 In hand, £1. 2. 4½; Rents, £48. 14. 9; Arrears, £18. 2. 6; Interest, £2. 7. 6.....  | 65.  | 7.  | 1½ |
| Discharge .....  | 57.  | 14. | 4  |
| Balance in hand .....  | 7.   | 12. | 9½ |
| (Among the receipts is the rent, £6. 13. 4, for a farm at Orton Longueville rented by John Jeyes, the gift of Mr. English; "butt 8 <sup>d</sup> . he payes for A Respit of homage Due unto the King," so they received £6. 13. 1.)   |      |     |    |
| 1635 In hand, £7. 12. 9½; Rents, £49. 18. 7; Arrears, £1. 6. 8; Paid off Bond, £15. 0. 0; Interest, £2. 7. 6.....  | 76.  | 5.  | 6½ |
| Discharge .....  | 78.  | 11. | 5  |
| Balance due to Bailiffs * .....  | 2.   | 8.  | 5  |
| 1636 The accounts for this year are in confusion, full of corrections and erasures, and a correct balance cannot be made out. One entry says that the total expenses were £57. 2. 1, and that this was £1. 2. 1 more than the receipts: but these figures do not correspond with the various details previously given. |      |     |    |
| 1637 Rents, £50. 3. 8; Interest, £1. 18. 8 .....   | 51.  | 17. | 4  |
| Discharge (not entered) .....  | 39.  | 17. | 1  |
| Balance in hand .....  | 12.  | 0.  | 8  |
| 1638 In hand, £12. 0. 3; Rents, £52. 7. 5; Arrears, £3. 0. 0; Wood sold, 5. 0; Interest, £6. 7. 4.....   | 74.  | 0.  | 0  |
| Discharge .....  | 87.  | 6.  | 4½ |
| Balance due to Bailiffs.....   | 13.  | 6.  | 4½ |
| 1639 Rents, £56. 13. 4; received, unspecified, 13. 8.....  | 57.  | 7.  | 0  |
| Discharge .....  | 49.  | 18. | 3½ |
| Balance in hand .....  | 7.   | 8.  | 8½ |
| 1640 In hand, £7. 8. 8½; Rents, £48. 3. 4; Interest, £5. 1. 6; Gifts, £21. 0. 0.....   | 81.  | 18. | 6½ |
| Discharge .....  | 37.  | 15. | 6½ |
| Balance in hand .....  | 43.  | 18. | 0  |

In the years 1636 and 1639 the particulars of the several tenancies are given, as well as the amounts paid. From a comparison of the accounts for these two years we find the property, tenants, and rentals, as here given.

|   | £   | s  | d |
|---|-----|----|---|
| Cottadge in Presgayte Lane, Sir Humfry Orme.....                            | 10. | 0  |   |
| Part of a Cottadge in Bungayte near the Vinyarde, Mr. Barrone Padgitte..... | 13. | 4  |   |
| The other part, Goodman Woodward .....                                      | 13. | 4  |   |
| The Towne Close, Mr. Poynes .....   | 4.  | 0. | 0 |
| Leese near Clestones backside, Mr. Chapline.....                            | 15. | 0  |   |

\* Some error here; but it is in the original.

|   | £   | s   | d |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| A Cottadge in Bridg Street, John Trostone the elder.....  | 3.  | 6.  | 8 |
| Two Cottadges in Presgayte Layne and a close at Newwoorke, Rich. Manestee.....  |     | 18. | 4 |
| A Cottadge in Presgayte Lane, John Dickenson.....   | 1.  | 10. | 0 |
| A littel peece of ground in Presgayte Lane, Joseph Browne   |     | 10. | 0 |
| Two Closes and a Cottadge in Wesgayte, Will Tinkerson   | 4.  | 6.  | 8 |
| A Close of land at Wackerly Willowes, Christopher Bude  | 1.  | 6.  | 8 |
| A farne in Dosthorpe, Tho. Bemroose.....  | 10. | 0.  | 0 |
| A Cottadge in Presgayte Lane, Widd. Walles .....  | 1.  | 0.  | 0 |
| A Cottadge in Bridge strete, Samwell More .....   | 1.  | 6.  | 8 |
| A Cottadge in Wegrate and certayne Land in the Westefeld, Roger Greene .....  | 1.  | 11. | 8 |
| A Cottage in Comberes gate, John Simsone.....   | 1.  | 10. | 0 |
| A Cottadge in the Markeet steed, Tho. Trostone .....  | 2.  | 18. | 4 |
| Certayne tennementes in Combers gayte, Mrs. Elmes.....  | 2.  | 0.  | 0 |
| A Cottage in Comberes gayte, Will. Houltene .....   | 1.  | 6.  | 8 |
| Sertayne leese in Woodfeld, Michelle Story .....  | 1.  | 10. | 0 |
| A Cottadge in the Bucherrowe, Will. Telfoord .....  |     | 13. | 4 |
| A littel Cottadge in Bridg streete, Gorge Wilyams.....  |     | 10. | 0 |
| A Cottadge in Bungayte and aore of land nere the parke gate (the gifte of Mr. Tho. Haoke, and to bee given awaye in dolles upon St. Tho: daye to the pore), Rich. Spechlye.....   | 2.  | 0.  | 0 |
| A farne in Orton (the gifte of Mr. Engliesh one hundred pounds towards the purches of that land, and £5 a yere of this Rent is to bee givene awaye to 40 pore peepell in 2 <sup>d</sup> . 6 <sup>d</sup> . a peece agaynst Orismas every yere), John Jaye | 6.  | 13. | 4 |
| A house upon the north side of the Chirch, (previously described as "the newe house latlye Bennysones," Esekil Didgline .....   | 2.  | 10. | 0 |
| A stabell belongene to that howse, John Pancke .....  |     | 5.  | 0 |
| The name of Mrs. Elmes, appearing in 1636 as renting certain tenements in Combers gate for £2, is replaced in 1639 by that of John Lovill, who rents "a howse upon the north side of the parrish Chirch and some howses in Comberes gayt" for £5.         |     |     |   |

In what part of Boongate did the Park Gate stand? or was it a street, like Westgate? and where are Wackerly Willowes? The form Combers Gate is new to me. I think it very likely that this spelling gives the true etymology of Cumbergate, a matter that I have never seen properly explained. It is known that there was a trade in Wool-combing carried on at Peterborough. Dean Duport has an opigram "In lanæ Comptores nostros Petriburgenses," upon our Wool-combers at Peterborough. It is not complimentary. They may have had their head quarters in Cumbergate, and the street may have derived its name from them. I think Butchers' Row was the short line of houses running north from the Guildhall.

Among the earliest documents in the possession of the Feoffees is a deed of sale of a messuage in Priestgate. It most likely refers to one of the cottages named in the list just given, and was perhaps acquired with other title deeds when the cottage came to them. The deed is in the following terms :—

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod ego Willelmus de Wytheryngtone dedi concessi & hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Johanni Turneye de Glapthorn pro quadam summa pecunie quam mihi dedit pre manibus Unum messuagium cum Utraque gabulo & cum omnibus suis pertinencijs in Villa de Burgo Sancti Petri Quod situm est in le Prestesgate inter Messuagium Sacriste Burgi ex parte Una et Messuagium Willelmi Dalby ex parte altera Et extendit Uno capite super Regiam viam et alio capite super tenementum Sacriste Burgi Habendum & Tenendum predictum Messuagium cum pertinencijs suis prefato Johanni & heredibus suis & suis assignatis de Capitalibus Dominis feodi illius Libere quiete bene & in pace Jure hereditarie per servicia inde debita & consueta. Et ego predictus Willelmus & heredes mei predictum Messuagium cum pertinencijs suis predicto Johanni & heredibus suis & assignatis contra omnes gentes Warantizabimus in perpetuum. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti carte sigillum meum apposui Hijs testibus Thoma Coko de Burgo Sancti Petri. Rogero Goscelin. Willelmo de Stanton. Thoma de Stauntone. Willelmo Dalby. Thoma de Heri. Radulpho de Padenall & alijs. Datum apud Burgum Sancti Petri die Veneris proxima post festum Sanctorum Fabiani & Sebastiani Anno Regni Regis Edwardi tercij A conquestu Secundo.

I make this date to be Friday, 22 Jan., 1328. It gives an early instance of the name Priestgate. The messuage referred to was apparently at the extreme east end of the street, as one end of the two-gabled dwelling extends to the King's Highway.

ED.

**691.—Marriage of a Nun.**—The following curious document (copied from the original) is entered in one of the books of the Consistory Court of Ely (H. 11).

Leo Episcopus servus servorum Dei Dilecto filio Priori Ecclesie Carlolensis Salutem et apostolicam [benedictionem?] Dilecta in Christo filia Isabella Betham mulier Carlolensis sive Eliensis dioceseos proponi fecit coram nobis quod alias ipsa impubes existens monialium de Armethwat ordinis Sancti Benedicti Dicte Carlolensis dioceseos intravit et habitum per ipsius monasterii moniales gestari solitum suscepit Ac professionem per eandem Moniales emitti (?) solitum emisit (?) regularem ad hoc coacta per vim et metum qui cadere poterant in constantem nullatenus tamen non val intentione gerens quod propter premissa Religioni hujusmodi in genere vel in specie obligari vellet Sed quamprimum commode potuit habitu hujusmodi dimisso ab ipso monasterio aufugit et deinde A quodam viro prole per eum suscepta ad monasterium prefatum redire Ac inde penitentiam peragendum compulsa fuit etiam per vim et metum similes ac demum vi et metu hujusmodi cessantibus quamprimum potuit monasterium ipsum exivit et ad seculum est Reversa in quo

Matrimonium cum viro ex quo prolem hujusmodi suscepit contrahere et in eo permanere desiderat Quare propter dicte Issabelle que ut asserit professionem predictam nunquam ratum aut gratum habuit nobis fuit humiliter supplicatum ut providere ei super hijs paterna diligencia curaremus Quocirca discretioni tue per apostolica scripta mandamus quatenus si vocatis Abbatissa et monialibus dicti monasterii et alijs qui fuerunt evocandi et inquisita per te super premissis diligencius super veritate rem ipsam reppereris ita esse prout superius enarretur eandem Issabellam premissorum occasione religioni hujusmodi in genere vel in specie minime obligari et cum dicto viro matrimonium contrahere et in eo postquam contractum fuerit permanere posse ac prolem ex eo susceptam et suscipiendam legitimam fore alio non obstante canonico impedimento auctoritate nostra nuncies et declares prout juxta casus hujusmodi successum fuerit de Jure faciendum.

Datum Florencie Anno Incarnacionis Dominice Millesimo quingentesimo quinto decimo decimo-octavo Kalendis Februariis Pontificatus nostri Anno tercio

Exhibitum fuit domino Commissario sive officiali reverendi in Christo patris et Domini Nicholai permissione Divina Eliensis Episcopi xxiii<sup>o</sup> die mensis Maij Anno Domini Millesimo quingentesimo sexto decimo per Issabellam Betham in loco con(sistorio ?) tento in ecclesia sancte trinitatis cantabrigia.

Although it is manifest that there are several errors in this copy, yet the general purport can be clearly made out. A young woman, named Isabel Betham, while under age, and perhaps hardly grown up, had been sent to a nunnery of the order of S. Benedict at Armathwaite, in Cumberland, and there assumed the habit and made the customary profession. But it was not of her own free will that she became a nun, but under fear and compulsion: and as soon as she could do so she made her escape and joined her lover. After some time, however, she was compelled to return to the nunnery, notwithstanding the fact that she had become a mother, and to perform penance. She again escaped and now openly claimed the right to be lawfully married, on the ground that her profession had not been voluntary. Pope Leo X. accordingly directs the Prior of Carlisle to enquire into the matter. He was to summon the Abbess and nuns and any others who could speak to the circumstances; and if he found Isabel's account to be correct, and there was no other canonical impediment, he might pronounce by the Pope's authority, a declaration that the desired marriage might be lawfully celebrated. The man would seem to belong to the diocese of Ely, but to what parish does not appear. The Pope's

commission is dated from Florence, 15 Jan., 1515. The papers in the case, which it is presumed included a satisfactory report from the Prior of Carlisle, were exhibited at a Court held in Trinity Church, Cambridge, 24 May, 1516. Ed.

**692.—Fire in Ely Cathedral, 1779.**—The following is from *The Annual Register* for 1879:—

One evening last month [*i.e.* in November], a carpenter going accidentally through the transept of Ely Cathedral, saw the chamber adjoining to the lantern on fire; he got assistance, and they tore up the flaming boards, and threw them down into the octagon; and thus saved that beautiful part of the building the lantern, and possibly the whole church. The fire is supposed to have been occasioned by the usual carelessness of plumbers who had been repairing the lead.

**693.—Laurence Wiltshire, Rector of Peakirk.**—Among some notes on Peakirk by Bishop Kennett preserved in the Lansdowne MSS. (991, fo. 168) is a memorial inscription to a rector of the parish said to be on a ground stone in the chancel. As it is no longer to be found the inscription is here given.

“Here lyeth interred the body of Laurence Wiltshire Rector of this place whose Piety to his dear Mother the Church was such that in the late Rebellion when she lay wallowing in dust and Cloud he faithfully bore her company; and for his Loyalty it was of that noble strain that he did not only shed tears in private, but engaged in publick for his pious and Anointed Master And as an encouragement to Piety and Loyalty Heaven was pleased to bless him with a hopefull Offspring, five Sons and three Daughters, and crowned him with length of Daies, dying aged 64. Who Departed this life upon Wednesday being the first of March 1681-2.”

Is anything known of any special services this loyal Divine rendered to the King's cause? He does not appear to have been connected with Peterborough, the Dean and Chapter of which are patrons of the living, and certainly never held a stall there. Ed.



**694.—Spiders a Cure for the Ague (673).**—Some further correspondence on this subject appeared in 1860 in *Notes and Queries* (2nd S. x. 6, 138). A Dublin correspondent refers to a communication from Dr. Donaldson in the *Indian Lancet*, wherein it is stated that the spider remedy, or more strictly speaking the spider's web, "was used a century back by the poor in the fens of Lincolnshire, and by Sir James McGregor in the West Indies," and the query is asked "Are there any records in Lincolnshire of the use of spiders' web with success in fever cases?"

Other writers speak of the use of this remedy in Ireland: and one gives instances from his own knowledge of large spiders, with their legs, &c., pinched off, and powdered with flour, so as to resemble a pill, being given for the ague; and also once met a case where a living spider was sewn up in a piece of rag, and worn round the patient's neck. Ed.

**695.—Vermuyden's Discourse on Draining.**—The following Discourse "Touching the Draining of the Great Fennes lying within the several Counties of Lincoln, Northampton, Huntingdon, Norfolk, Suffolke, Cambridge, and the Isle of Ely, &c." was written by Sir Cornelius Vermuyden in 1642. As it is very scarce we think our readers will be glad to have it reproduced in our columns.

"Divers persons of quality heretofore have been desirous to attempt the drayning of the great and vast leuell called the Great Fenns, but they found not only the work, but also the composing of an agreement very difficult, for they could not attain to so much as to make a contract for the general drayning thereof, untill of late years, King James, of blessed memory, did undertake (by a law of sewers) that great work, who, for the honour of this kingdom (as his Majesty told me at that time) would not suffer any longer the said land to bee abandoned to the will of the waters, nor to let it lye wast and unprofitable. But his Majesties great occasions and the time would not permit so great and good a resolution, but it was deferred so long, that at last the late Earl of Bedford (by the Law of Sewers made at Lynne) did undertake the drayning of the said great and vast level so farre as to make it summer ground.

"Hereupon the said Earl made choise of divers persons of quality, who made a purse, and joyned in the performance of this great enterprize. And at the last (after the expence of above one hundred thousand pounds) the said Earl did proceed so far in this work, that it was adjudged to be made summer ground, and the recompence thereupon was set out.

"But now notwithstanding all these great expences, they find by experience, that the lands can yield little or no profit, being subject to inundation still (though not so familiarly), whereby the adventurers not only became frustrate of their expectation, but also all the owners in general, who cannot make that use of their lands as they might doe, if they were made winter grounds and reduced to a certainty. His now Majesty taking consideration thereof, and foreseeing that these lands being a continent of about 400,000 acres, which being made winter ground, would be an unexpected benefit to the Commonwealth of six hundred thousand pounds *per annum* and upwards, and a great and certain revenue to all the parties interested. And likewise, because the owners (who are very many) could not agree to do so great a work (the one being willing, the other not; the one able to contribute, the other not) hath therefore bin pleased to undertake the making of those lands winter ground at his own charge, whereby the said four hundred thousand acres will be made profitable, firm, and good.

"And for to execute the enterprize the better, his Majesty did command divers gentlemen expert in these works, to give their advice how these lands might be recovered in such manner as to make them winter grounds, to the end the work might be performed according to the contract. And amongst others, his Majesty was pleased to make one of that commission, and after a view thereof taken, every one of the said commissioners have returned their report and opinion (as usual in such case, and especially in a matter of such great weight) they differ much in their way, and so no resolution could be determined at that time, but did remain unresolved; yet all of them were of opinion that the work was very feazable. When K. James, of blessed memory, undertooke the drayning as aforesaid, at that time I was come over into England, invited to this work. I took several views thereof, went away, returned, and reviewed the same, took advice of the experienced men of the Low Countries, and from time to time did study how to contrive that work for the best advantage, being at that time in proposition to have undertaken the doing of that said work, together with my friends at our own charge, for a pro-

portion of land. And my opinion therein I declared but lately to his Majesty ; and his Highness being well pleased with that way, after debate had thereupon, was pleased to put the direction of that work upon me, and to perform it at his own charge, and for further information therein, hath commanded to have it set down in writing, which accordingly hereafter followeth.

*“ The Situation of the Great Fenns, and the State thereof.*

“The level lyeth in six counties, (*vis.*) Cambridge and the Isle of Ely, Huntingdon, Northampton, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Suffolk. It is of a vast and great extent, that for its quantity it is of the latitude of a whole shire, and bounds on the north-west on the river of Glean ; on the west and south-east upon the Upland Countries aforesaid, and on the north on Marsh-land and Holland, being likewise in the said level separated by banks.

“There doe run through these fenns eight rivers, which do come out of divers vast and great countries which lye about it ; the said rivers are called Glean, Welland, Neane, Ouse, Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke.

“These rivers lye common with the land, without separation by banks, save only Glean and Welland are sometimes imbanked, and some banks there are in some places on some of the other rivers, but not to that purpose as to save any part of the lands ; and for this reason, and for want of a sufficient passage for the waters that come by the rivers, all the lands are overflown.

“The said rivers have three several outfalls from the fenns into the sea, and by these out-falls the said rivers and lands unwater themselves in that manner as now they doe.

“The level is broad, and of great extent, and flat, with little or no descent of its own, and grown full of hassacks, sedge, and reed, and the rivers full of weeds ; and the waters go slowly away from the lands and out of the rivers, and they come swift into it and upon it out of the Upland Counties, where the rivers have a great fall. The aforesaid three out-falls are of great length before they come to the sea, the lands of Holland and Marsh-land being great countries which lye between them, and do hinder the speedy current of the waters towards the sea. There is much increase on the sea-side, and very large and vast sands, all dry at low water ; and because of the Point of Norfolk, it makes it an imbay, whereby the sands of the sea are thrown there by the floods, and these three out-falls come through these sands, and the tydes every

day bring into the mouth of the rivers a great quantity thereof, and there is but a few times sufficient land-water to set the sands out again to keep the out-fall open, insomuch that Welland and Wisbich out-falls are choked every summer; but the outfall of Lynn hath sufficient water to keep open his channel, and although in the summer the sands in Lynn haven overcome the ebbs somewhat, yet they do not lye long, but the first land waters or next spring tydes carry them away again.

“But it is not only to be feared, but apparent, that in process of time, the out-falls of Wisbich and Welland will utterly decay, by the said increase and sands of the sea, if they should remain as now they are, by reason of the daily increase of the marshes.

“The soyl of this vast country is moorish, gathered and grown up higher by the weeds and oaze of the waters; many of them are rich grounds, and all would (if they were well drained) be very profitable and become good grounds, especially after they be burned, manured, and husbanded as such grounds should be.

“There be many isles and rising grounds within this great level, and the rivers pass by towns low seated, lying here or next unto the Uplands, wherein the inhabitants of the fenns doe live in great abundance. The said countries of Marshland, Wisbich, and Holland, are fenced by banks from the waters of the fenns, and sometimes they have been overflown by the said waters, and have often been in great danger, and they are at a continual charge for the maintenance of the said banks. The King's contract is to make these lands winter ground, that is, to free them from the overflowing of the rivers aforesaid, so farr as by art can be devised.

*“Considerations to be taken in the ordinary way of  
Draining.*

“There is in use a general rule of Drayning and gaining of drowned lands, which is by imbanking all the rivers on each side, and by leading away the downfall by draynes and sluices; and this is the ordinary way of draining, as is usual in all such cases.

“But in this case of the Great Fenns, I cannot advise to go altogether in such a way to avoid inconveniences of great and vast expence, many difficulties of inundation and uncertainties, which otherwise would depend thereupon. For then a multitude of banks must be made, about 70,000 rods in length, on a level and moorish ground, and far distant from the falls: the yearly reparation whereof would be (besides the charge of

making them) very great. The head draynes (which in this case are to be cut) for the leading away of the downfall, must be carried in all places through a higher ground than the lands drayned, which will be the greater charge, and those grounds wherein they are to be laid, must be dear bought.

“The towns of Peterborough, Erith, and many others standing upon the upper ends of the rivers, and but low, would be thereby sometimes drowned, unless great forelands and receptacles be.

“A great inconvenience would on the south side of Ouse, for by the imbanking of the rivers on that side, there would be three or four levels, the one above the other, and all of them would want a fall all the winter time. And to lead away the downfall of them, it must be carried by tunnels underneath the three several rivers of Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke, and that in sundry places, and the water must go about 28 miles before it cometh to the fall, and so the upper level must of necessity commit the water thereof into the next, and so into the lower again. And all this length of 28 miles goe in a slow pace. And how the downfall should be brought such a length without surcharging the drainies either in the one or other level, I know not. And especially there being several brooks, the which in winter time will overtake the downfall, and being liberal with their waters (being more than the drains and tunnels can swallow) the level would become surrounded, and so without perfection from within.

“And by the waters without the banks, which lye in continual danger of inundation for want of a good fall in the winter, and by a wind, catch, break, and undoe all again.

“And although each mouth of the several rivers of Mildenhall and Brandon, be brought through new channels lower to the fall; yet it will not take away these inconveniences in this way. And if by another way the several rivers of Mildenhall and Brandon should be brought to Stoke all in one along the upper end of the level, and so by Stoke mouth into Ouse; yet that way the downfall will have no issue neither; for the waters of the several rivers being all brought into Ouse, neer together, and kept within channel, will so swell in the rivers, that the downfall thereof, which is to be kept under soil, will have no issue, and so the level be overflown, and as it is now, and no better.

“And the lands will be by this way much subjected to inundation and drowning, both by the rivers and downfall; and not be worth so much in purchase, or to be letten, as otherwise: and the charge of the works in this way (in works

not accompted) will be much greater than the whole drayning will require the other way, which I direct hereafter following.

"Therefore to avoid these and many more inconveniences, I find it best to lead most of the rivers about another way, whereby these four benefits will arise.

1. That the works may be made at a far less charge.
2. That they will stand with more safety and no hazard of inundation, and so may become habitable.
3. And not subject to half that reparation.
4. And the land of a far better value than the other way.

*"Divers Things to be observed.*

"And to the end the works may be made to answer the difficulties the lands now lye in, in the contriving thereof, these following things are to be observed.

1. That the rivers come down swift out of the Upland Countries, and when they be in the fenns (they being level grounds) goe but slowly away.

2. That the level is of great extent, twenty miles at least from the upper end to the fall ; and therefore before the water can come thither, within a convenient and answerable time, and in that proportion as it is still fed by the river water from above out of the Uplands, it must go swifter than the level water.

3. That the banks (so much as may be) be laid out from the moorish grounds.

4. That the rivers be carried on the highest grounds where possibly they may bee.

5. That the draines be laid in the lowest grounds.

6. That there be receptacles for the waters to bed on in all times of extremity, otherwise the work might bee put to an impossibility, and a continual hazard of inundation.

7. And that the towns lying on the upper part of the rivers may not be damnified, by putting the waters too high between the banks.

8. And although all this bee provided for, yet the banks to be made 10, 11, or 12 foot high, on a seat of 40, 45, 50, or 60 foot broad in general, according to the occasions more or less.

9. That the river water and the downfall bee kept asunder, and brought to the fall severally.

"Now farther, observe how it stands with the River of Glean, (to give yon an example) which river drowns Deeping Fenn, by the often breaking of the banks on that side, and two slakers (which are inlets), whereby the waters of Glean, when

the banks cannot contain them, are let into Deeping Fen by a certain measure (that when the water is above the bottom of the slakers, then it) runneth over into the land. And this is because the banks on either side of the Glean are laid too near together, therefore if the waters should be kept within the banks as now they are, without slakers, they would run over and break them, and Deeping Fenn would thereby be drowned on every occasion by the breaches which the water would make. Those slakers then are made to keep the said banks from breaking, which is no otherwise than an issue in a corrupt body, where there is a neglect to take away the occasion by a known remedy. It cannot be deny'd but that the banks of Glean were laid too near; for had they been laid four times so far asunder as now they are, the river would be contained within banks without slakers, for if the water be pent into a narrow room, then the water in that narrow room must be higher, and so rise over the banks. But if it shall lye on a wide bed, then it lyeth broader, and the cubes of two several bodies will much differ, for you shall find a greater proportion, and also gain a greater easement to the said banks than the other way, and room to lodge the water between them without any slakers or inlets, for they are remedies worse than the disease, and not to be suffered in any work whatsoever if you desire perfection. There should be great room left between bank and bank on each side of the rivers, yet the one river, according to the greatness thereof, will require more than the other. For the greater the confluence of waters, the more room is required to receive it. And the more distance from the fall, the more room likewise is to be left; because the waters being far distant from the fall, go not so speedy, nor have that current which they have at small or short distance.

“And in case that all the rivers should be inn'd and fenced by banks to free the lands, and that great distances should be left between bank and bank; yet still it must be confess'd that a multitude of banks in this level must be made thro' moorish grounds, in length about 70,000 rod, which would be very chargeable and dangerous. And (if all be considered) impossible that way to be made a sure work, and in such a case, divers draynes for the downfall must bee made, and all thro' high and valuable lands, and more sluices (which are very chargeable, not only in their first making, but also in their future maintenance) as may be seen by the draines of Deeping Fenn and others which are but newly made, and already almost grown up with all kind of water weeds. You may observe this in all kind of draynes of this nature throughout

the whole country. So that thereby the works become unfruitfull after a little while, and in this way many thousands might be spent to small or no purpose. But to avoid the multiplicity of banks and the making of many drains, and to reduce the work to a possibility, it should be so contrived that there should be but few of either of them made. Therefore, it is best that rivers be brought as into one, to avoid nere the moiety of the banks, which otherwise must be made. And for the receptacles, I resolve to imitate nature (as much as can be) in the Upland Countries, for between the hills there are meadows, and on each side pasture grounds or plough land. I shall endeavour to contrive the workes that way, that there be meadows between the upland and the winter ground of the fenns likewise.

“Hereby first to avoid multiplicity of banks, which are very chargeable both in their making and maintaining.

“Secondly, For that the meadows will be receptacles for the water in time of extremity to bed on upon all occasions of floods, and so to keep the waters at a lesser height by far against the banks, and no hurt, but a great deal of good will be thereby; for these meadows will lye very convenient for the Upland Country and for the winter grounds of the fenns. And of these meadows there will be no greater quantity than the imbanking of the rivers by the ordinary way of drayning will take up, for there must be room left between bank and bank.

“And when all this is taken into consideration, with the scituation of the whole, I find it the fittest way to divide the whole level into three parts.

1. The one from Glean to Morton's Leame.
2. From Morton's Leame to Bedford River.
3. From Bedford River southwards, being the remainder of the level.

“To drain the lands between Glean and Morton's Leame, all Stow-brook, and so much of the River of Glean as the banks cannot contain, must be turned along Deeping into Welland, and all Welland into Morton's Leame, which lyeth' convenient to receive Stow Brook, part of Glean, Welland, and Neane, to be carried to Guyhurne, and from thence by Wisbich to the sea, and so those rivers to make but one; whereby the work will be made at lesser charges by far, and also gain a more perfect outfall, because the rivers of Wisbich and Spalding are not sufficient for want of water to keep open their channels as they should be kept, but are interrupted and subject to grow up, by reason of the sand which the sea bringeth in, whereas they ought to be kept open and have their full depths and fall,



for the ground to be drayned so far upwards as into or adjoyn-  
ing to the drowned grounds, for the issuing of their downfall.

“To make a sure work thereof, I advise to bring the aforesaid  
rivers into one, that they may (in time) gain themselves a  
natural channel, which will be far better than to leave them to  
sundry outfalls, which in future ages, (as is conceived) will  
reduce the work into an uncertainty again, by reason of the  
daily great increase of the salt marshes and the sands of the sea.

“And by this means the old channell of Welland will become  
very usefull to the country, by the sasse or navigable sluice to  
be set at Waldron Hall for navigation to water the country in  
summer, and to scowre the outfall, and in winter the channel  
will serve to convey away the downfall of the adjacent lands,  
which otherwise must be done by draynes to be made at great  
charge, and there is no conveniency to have such draynes, and  
beside the charge, which is intollerable, the service thereof  
will be uncertain, because there is no place for them but  
through high grounds, in which draynes cannot be made so  
useful as they should, especially for Deeping Fenns, which  
are very low grounds, and hardly to be drained, except  
Welland be turned to Wisbich.

“And hereby the said Deeping Fenns will be more certainly  
secured, and they and Elow, as I verily believe, will be more  
worth to be purchased by fifty or sixty thousand pounds, if  
drayned this way, then if they should be drayned the other  
way.

“But why should the two rivers be brought to Wisbich, and  
not through Welland, Welland lying in the middle of this part  
of the level.

“I find many reasons which move to bring these waters to  
Wisbich, and they are these :

1. The outfall of Wisbich lyeth convenient for the draying  
of South Holland (*alias*) Ellow, and the north side of Wisbich  
by the Sheire Drayne. And if Welland be not put that way,  
the outfall of Wisbich cannot so well be kept low enough to  
drayne them as they should be, they being very low grounds,  
and the low water of the sea lying now but little lower than  
they, and yet must be sufficiently drayned, and by the turning  
of Welland thither, the outfall of Wisbich will grind deeper  
and gain a greater fall to lay them dry, and high above water.

2. And consider that the lands of South Holland, by  
descending from Spalding to the Sheire Drayne above four  
foot, and therefore of necessity they must have their best  
issue into Wisbich outfall by the Sheire Drayne, and that part  
of Thorney Abbey grounds, Wisbich Common, and such lands

as cannot run to Welland with their downfall, must have a drayne between Guyhurne and the Shire Drain, at a place called Murra Plash.

3. Wisbich Outfall and Morton's Leame lye in the middle of the level of fenna, and hereby will become navigable, to the great benefit and convenience of the country, and the outfall will be thereby made safe for ever, and the fenna be kept absolutely drayned.

4. By the water of Glean and the downfall which goeth and is to go that way, the channel of Welland will be kept open and remain navigable for small boats, and serve for the downfall of the country on that side.

5. Welland is a lesser river than Neane, and runneth on a higher bottom, and it is more convenient to bring the higher and lesser, to the low and greater, than contrariwise.

6. It will be a less charge and more certainty. For the River of Welland is more narrow, and Wisbich River is more wide and easie to be opened, because of the works already made by the Earl of Bedford, and hath already three foot better fall than that of Spalding.

7. I find in the report of Sir Clement Edmonds, 20 September, 1618, by order of his late Majesties most honourable Privy Councell, upon occasion of the differences which arose amongst the Commissioners of Sewers for those countries. That upon examination it was found that anciently the waters of Welland and Neane went to the sea by Wisbich outfall. And by the said report, it was likewise found good to draw the waters to their ancient outfalls, which confirms me in my resolution. And observe, that Gleane is higher than Welland, and Welland than Neane; therefore of necessity, Welland must be brought to Neane, as anciently nature brought it, which is now hindered by a bank, and not Neane to Welland. And it is very true, that the water of Welland, for the most part, runneth now naturally by Crowland into Neane, which confirmeth the said report; and that Neane lyeth the lower, and that but little of Welland water goeth by Foss Dike.

8. That part of the levell between Welland and Neane lyeth descending from Welland to Neane 4 or 5 foot, and if the River of Neane should be carried to Welland, then the water of Neane must be raised higher than it runneth naturally, and bee kept between two banks, and one bank will not serve, as it may by bringing Welland into Neane. And in such a case, the town of Peterborough, the receptacles and all, would be drowned upon every petty flood, especially all the lands between Standground and Peterborough.

“There are some men, which either out of ignorance, or for other ends to hinder this good work, object, that if Welland should be turned to Neane, it might in the first place hinder the level drayned by the Earl of Lindsey; and secondly, Boston Deepes.

“For the Earl of Lindsey’s works, which ran into the fall a mile and a half above Fosse Dike, I answer, that put the case the outfall should utterly decay, then the Earl of Lindsey’s drayne may be brought below Fosse Dike, and so fall into the deep outfall there, where there is an open way to the sea; but that outfall will not decay, but remain always (as the work will be contrived) for the river Glean shall always goe that way for so much thereof as the bank can contain, which will be a greater quantity than now cometh thereby, because the banks, by the scowering of Glean, will be made the more sufficient, and also part of Welland, all the summer if need shall bee, to water the country, and keep the outfall open by the lock at Waldron-hall, which will be so much as now there goeth by Welland old Channel; for the most part now goeth by Crowland, and drowneth Thorney, Crowland, and Peterborough Fenns, and goeth that way to Wisbich as is aforesaid, and in the winter drowneth them, and all Deeping and Eilow, and all the country and nearer towns to the outfall.

“And in the winter there will be all the downfall of Crowland Fenns, Deeping Fenns, and the Earl of Lindsey’s Level, on the north of Glean, which will all fall into that outfall together with Glean, which will be able to keep it sufficiently open for Glean, and the downfall; and if there shall want (as there will not) more will be sent either by a drain through Deeping Fenns, or by the old channel of Welland: but it shall not need; one year’s experience will take away all the fear, for there will be water enough. And for instance, the leams at Long Sutton (which runneth through the like soyle) hath been and is kept open through the sands of the sea by the four gates near Lutton, about 7 miles from Spalding Outfall, and doth run but 7 or 8 months in the year. Those waters which doe and always have kept open the said leame, are not so much as the 20th part of that water which shall goe to Welland Outfall by these works; which makes it evident that Welland Outfall will be kept open. And further take examples by all the outfalls on the coast of Lincoln and Norfolk, where all the outfalls are kept open, and yet have no river to help them, but nevertheless are kept open by the downfall only.

“It is in use and practice every day, where the havens or outfalls in the Low Countries have no river, to make a pan,

and at every tyde to take water into the said pan, and so they do keep open their outfalls of two or three miles long ; but Welland hath a better remedy : that outfall (as it will be there contriv'd) will be the best outfall of the country.

"If it were not to preserve navigation for Spalding, it were not amiss to bring all the downfall of Deeping and Thorney through Ellow, and so to Wisbich Outfall by a new channel ; and this is another remedy.

"It is considerable to be spoken of thus far, because that the works may be very well contrived thus or towards Wisbich, all parties provided for and saved thereby, and so well for the navigation of Spalding to Wisbich, instead of that of Fosse Dike, as for the downfall.

"As touching Boston Deepes, I answer that the floods of the sea come over all the sands which lye between them and the point of Norfolk, and doe returne with the ebb towards the north thither again ; and these ebbs are that which have always maintained Boston Deepes.

"It is not the River of Welland and that of Boston that can do it ; they are but small waters, especially that of Welland, and the less powerful when it cometh abroad into a vast place where it is not to be discerned. For instance, Welland cannot make a deep in a narrow channel at Foss Dike, but at every low water travellers ride through, the water being not above half leg deep, which sheweth that it hath neither force nor great quantity of water.

"And consider, that when Welland went by Wisbich, yet Boston Deepes were then : I did not ground my reason upon Sir Clement Edmond's Report, and that there is descent from Welland to Neane, but doe likewise take it into consideration that the great stone bridge at Spalding, through which some small part of Welland water did come in the winter time, which was of great antiquity, was not twelve foot in the water-course, and but five foot deep, and the stone pillar or pier in the midst thereof, which supported both arches, was but now of late taken away by the drainers of Deeping Fenns when they did widen the river ; which maketh it evident, that but little of Welland water went that way either of late or anciently ; yea, less then now the downfall will amount unto as I do contrive it.

"Moreover consider, that when the River of Welland went to Wisbich, then the Bridge at Boston stood firme, and in ancient time was made with doors to shut out the floods, in manner of a sluice, that it should not go higher than the townne, which bridge now hath none, so that the sea doth now flow up with a great quantity of water 20 miles by the water-

course above Boston. Yet so long ago, when the said river had not the fourth part of the ebb which now it hath, and that Welland as aforesaid did goe to Wisbich Fall, yet Boston Deep was, and the town had then a great commerce in wooll and other merchandize. And the reasons why it was so, is that the ebb which cometh over the sands which lye between Norfolk and it, cometh that way, and so keepeth a deep there which could not otherwise bee possibly maintained.

"For the rivers are not such as to keep open a depth of such wideness as Boston Deep is, especially among the sands of the sea. If it were not for the ebbs of the sea, it would soon decay. Moreover, the River of Wisbich ebbs towards the north by Boston Deep into the sea, and if the River of Welland be brought to Wisbich, it must go that way likewise to the sea, as now it doth; so in this case it makes no alteration.

"It is objected by some that it were better to let the River of Welland goe between banks to Spalding, and the River of Neane to Wisbich, and so leave two outfalls.

1. That two rivers to be brought into one will make a better outfall, and such an outfall will serve the country in general better than two outfalls, and will never decay.

2. That two outfalls will burthen the maintenance more than 1,000*l.* yearly at least, att all advantages.

3. That it will require 18 miles of banks more and draines, and the charges thereby increase at least 20,000*l.* and 1,000*l.* the year for the maintenance more, and make a worsor work.

[Continued on Page 81].

**696.—Decoy in Borough Fen.**—If the reader will consult an Ordnance map of the Fen district, and trace a line representing six miles, almost due north of Peterborough, he will find the position of a Decoy in High Borough Fen,—or taking his stand-point at Peakirk, he will find it two miles in a N.E. direction, *i.e.*, in the direction of Crowland.

To visit the spot indicated, he might start from Peakirk and walk about 1½ miles on the right bank of the river Welland, and there, to the right, he would approach a long narrow road planted on each side with willows and flanked by ditches. Should he be desirous to foster a quiet mood, he may do so here to perfection. It's a noiseless retreat, and no gun even can be, by right, fired within a mile of the place—in fact, a decoy could not exist but in a sequestered spot like this.

Decoys were once plentiful in the Fens, in Lincolnshire especially ; at what date invented I am unable to state. Undoubtedly there were various devices for the capture of wild fowl at a remote period, but decoys, as we know them, were established in Norfolk in the reign of King James I.

However, it is not my intention to enlarge upon the origin and history of decoys ; my purpose is to describe briefly the Decoy in High Borough Fen, which may be taken as a model of its kind. The accompanying illustration\* is from a drawing I made on the spot (with actual dimensions).

The area of the ground occupied by the pool, the channels of the pool, and the trees and shrubs, is nearly 19 acres—the pool itself being  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres.

The subject divides itself thus :—

- (I) The Pool ; the Pipe ; the Screens.
- (II) The Piper ; the Decoy Ducks ; the Decoying.

**THE POOL.**—Fig. 1 shows the form of the pool and the channels running therefrom, that is, the pipes, of which there are eight, lying in the direction of the main points of the compass (marked on the plan N., N.E., E., etc.). The approaches to the pool are carefully screened by reeds, trees, and underwood.

The eight areas (like a, Fig. 1) between the pipes are thickly planted with willows, osiers, and such trees as form a good shelter ; there are poplars and firs also within the grounds. On the convex side of the pipes there are paths in the thickets (indicated by dotted lines on Fig. 1), but the concave side is entirely masked by trees and underwood. By these paths the decoymen reach the shore screen (S, Fig. 2) near the head-end (d), *i.e.*, the mouth of the pipes. Another entrance is made near the small end of the pipe (a, Fig. 2). This point is screened by reed fences (s', s', Fig. 2), so that any one may pass at that point without being seen, even at this small end of the pipe.

\* See frontispiece.

**THE PIPE.**—The plan of one pipe is shown in Fig. 2 ; a to b is called the *small end* ; b to c the *elbow* ; c to d the *head-end*, that is, the entrance from the pool. A triangular shaped piece of ground, marked f, with a screen e, is called the *back shore* ; this is designed as a lodgement for the wild fowl. On the side, with a zig-zag line, is a narrow shore, g ; this is the *fore-shore*. The dots . . . on both these shores, indicate the spots where poles are driven into the ground. These are ash poles, stripped of the bark and bent over the pipe ; they carry the net which covers the pipe ; from the head-end (d) to the small end (a) the arches becomes smaller ; and the small end itself has iron hoops to bear the netting ; the net is made of cord, the meshes being three or four inches square.

The head-end (d) of the pipe is 15ft. across ; at the elbow (c) the pipe narrows to 12ft. ; at the beginning of the small end (b) it is 8ft. ; and at the termination (a), 2ft. across. At this point a moveable net is fixed by means of two stakes indicated at a, Fig. 2 ; this net is called the *tunnel* ; it has several hoops, 2ft. apart, within it ; the tunnel-net is open to the small end of the pipe, and the fowl, after having gone up the small end, are driven into this net and captured.

The depth of water in the decoy is regulated by means of small sluices in two opposite pipes—one pipe is thus made the channel of inflow of fresh water, the opposite one runs off any surplus quantity ; this contrivance prevents the pool from becoming charged with stagnant water ; the depth is generally from 14 to 18 inches.

**THE SCREENS.**—These are formed of reeds supported by oak posts and arranged as shown in the plan (s, Fig. 2, ten in number) ; the decoy men can walk from the small end to the head-end without being seen by the birds which may have collected in or near the pipe. The dotted line o o shows that after a person has passed the screen near the small end, opposite b, he cannot see the mouth of the pipe, and is not seen by the birds whether they are in the Pool, on the back

shore, f, or resting on the *wing pole* floating in the water (w. p., Fig. 2). The short, thick lines marked l (9 in number) represent *the leaps* (not high like the screens); over these the dog jumps when "working" at the decoy.

**THE PIPER.**—A well trained little dog is the "piper"; he is an indispensable agent in the business of decoying, and is prepared for his work by a regular training. He is taught to jump over the leaps, which are boards, and he generally receives a piece of cheese as a reward. He is so disciplined that when on duty he never barks, is not sportive, nor does he take any notice of the wild fowl; he comes quickly when called, leaps over the fences when required, and returns to his master for further orders.

**THE DECOY DUCKS.**—About forty tame ducks are kept in the pool of this decoy; they are no doubt descendants from the Mallard (*Anas boschas*, Linn). They generally lay their eggs on the shores, but sometimes secrete their nests and bring off their brood unexpectedly. They are trained not to enter the pipes, but only to come to the head-end in answer to a faint whistle, and they are there fed. The principal feeding takes place at night, when the wild fowl have left the decoy. In the decoying season, the appearance of the dog on the *fore-shore* is a sufficient signal for bringing the tame ducks towards the pipe's mouth; then the wild fowl follow.

**THE DECOYING.**—The wild fowl generally come over to the decoy in August, but are left in quiet possession of the Pool till November. The season for catching them continues from November to March.\*

It must be understood that the wild fowl leave the decoy at night and return in the day for shelter and apparent security. Now suppose a north-easterly wind is blowing, the decoy men will take pipe marked N., so that the wind blows from the

\* Formerly the Mallard, Widgeon, and Teal were the principal fowl taken in the Decoys. It would be interesting to know in what proportion they are captured now, and whether any other species of *Anatida* or *Larida* (the Terns), &c., are captured, for railways and cultivation have disturbed the old order of things.



point of the pipe towards the pool. The back shore, f, is then a good shelter for the fowl. The decoy men stand near the extremities of the screens. A small opening is made in the reeds, with a piece of wood, so that the man at the small-end may see the position of the birds—these may be “banked” on the back shore, or resting on the wing pole (w. p.). The other man, near the mouth of the pipe, commences work by throwing the dog a piece of cheese,—“the piper” leaps over the nearest low fence and runs along the fore-shore, g, and comes through a hole in one of the fences—the fowl are watched through the little openings in the screen (opposite b) and the man, at this small-end of the pipe, gives a signal,—another piece of cheese is thrown and “the piper” leaps again,—tame ducks and wild fowl are by the mouth of the pipe; here the decoy man throws a few seeds (small refuse seeds) over the screen, the *tame ducks* begin to feed, the dog leaps again, higher up the pipe,—the wild fowl pursue him to gratify their curiosity, leaving the decoy ducks feeding; the man near the end of the screens sees that the fowl are well in the pipe and makes a signal to him at the head-end, by certain wavings of his hat, which screen he should “show at,”—this man, then, who has been prompting the dog, comes to the open, i.e., stands by one of the leaps and holds up his hat, but makes no noise, and then passes to the next, and so gradually drives the fowl into the *small end* of the pipe and thence into the *tunnel net*, the end of which is raised from the stakes (at a, Fig. 2) and suddenly twisted—this closes the mouth of the net and the birds are secured.

S. H. MILLER.

697.—**Dick Turpin** (655).—I see in an article in a recent number of *The Cornhill* called “Knights of the Road” that Dick Turpin is said to have been the son of an East Anglian farmer. But the place where his father lived is not given.

M.M.D.

**698.—Algarkirk.**—Our Fen country parishes contain many more things of interest than is generally supposed; and probably most of the old parishes can shew similar records to the one I here describe, viz., Algarkirk.

In early times these places were the homes of families of some distinction, probably because they could so readily surround their mansions with moats, to protect them from robbers, or other attacks peculiar to those disturbed times; almost every parish still possesses evidence of one or more of such castellated and moated residences. These were probably pulled down, or fell into ruin, in the 14th century, when their owners no longer required either isolation or protection; and in some few instances they were converted into smaller houses for the occupiers of the adjacent land.

The "Acre Book" of Algarkirk, written as late as 1737, records some of these old houses. For example:—"another acre part of this was it whereon y<sup>e</sup> antient house of the Gibbons stood called Ellerton Place or Castle"; "the Capital Messuage wherein Geo. Lankton now dwelleth called by the Name of The Place"; "S<sup>r</sup> Henry Nelthorp K<sup>t</sup>., sometime S<sup>r</sup> Jno. or Rich<sup>d</sup>. Bolls K<sup>t</sup>., holdeth a Messuage called Bollshall"; "Thomas Whitecoat, late S<sup>r</sup>. Jno. Mears K<sup>t</sup>., holdeth a Messuage & six acres of pasture called Toops or Hiptofthall, there was sometime great stores of Buildings upon it, being the Mansion house of y<sup>e</sup> same"; "Charles Wood Esq<sup>r</sup>., before Kinderly, late Ryleys, before Sir Thos. Middlecoats, before S<sup>r</sup>. Jno. Harringtons, holdeth three acres of Pasture Hallyards whereon stood sometime Buildings. Upon this pasture stood the Man<sup>r</sup>. house of the Lord of Bewsolas"; "Dennis Cooling, before Proctor, before Wellys or Ramseys, holdeth a Cottage called Ramsey Castle late pulled down"; "Lord Brook's house, or the Place," is also mentioned as a "capital Messuage."

Marratt, in his history (1714), states that Ellerton Place or Castle was the "residence of S<sup>r</sup> John Meares and his Ancestors"; but he is clearly wrong, for the Acre Book shews

it to have belonged to the Gibbons family for at least 50 years before 1737 ; while Sir John Mears was living up to that same year ; and as he retained his land in the parish, it is improbable he would have sold his residence so long before : but I incline to think Marratt may be correct as to Ellerton Place having originally been built on the site of the Castle of Earl Algar, and he gives evidence of the buildings having been very extensive, and there are foundations of a drawbridge, watch tower, &c.

It is probable that in many of the numerous names of fields we have a record of the names of former owners or occupiers. Nothing else seems to account for such names as Barnard Green, Bewfolds, Browns Green, Martin Close, Dawly Green, Spaincoat, Sunderlands, Welby Hall, and others.\*

No less than ten crosses are named in the description of the parish, so doubtless crosses once existed at the localities indicated. It is somewhat remarkable that lands retained in 1737 the names of Chantry Lands, the Chantry of Fosdike, Cloyster, the Little Chantry, Our Lady's Chantry of Kirton, &c. Many lands are stated to be held by Knight's Service. The book hardly mentions any houses or cottages existing at the time, so that where the inhabitants resided is not shewn : and out of 2,421 acres hardly any seem to have been arable, but nearly all pasture. This, however, is not peculiar to Algarkirk, for I have found in other acre books that 150 years ago nearly all the land in the neighbourhood was pasture.

What strikes me as most remarkable is that there appear 690 owners for 2,421 acres : and after deducting the eleven large owners, it leaves to the smaller owners an average of 1ac. 3ro. 10po. each, something less than the "three acres and a cow" of which we heard so much not long ago.

It is much to be feared that most of the old names of crosses and fields have been lost to the present generation ; and this is much to be deplored, for they were frequently the sole

\* Not unfrequently such field names, and the names given to lanes and droves, are derived from occupiers who were not owners of the land.—Ed.

record of past history and ancient families. The larger owners buying up land, and employing agents ignorant of local names, too often accounts for this.

There is one description of land I cannot make out, "earable." I took it at first to be equivalent to arable, but I find it in such expressions as "earable pasture," "earable woodland." Can any reader inform me what it really signifies?

I hope the above account may incite other correspondents to give us some particulars of their own parishes; for there is a fund of information to be had, if people will only dig it out.

Frampton Hall.

C. T. J. MOORE, F.S.A.

**699.—Atkins' Survey of the Fennes.**—In the preface to Armstrong's *History of the Navigation of the Port of Kings Lyn & of Cambridg and of the Navigable Rivers that have their course through the Great Level of the Fens*, published at London in 1766, we read as follows:—

From Edmond Rolfe, Esq., Alderman of Lyn, I had many useful Papers . . . he also favoured me with the valuable Manuscript of Mr. Richard Atkins, of Outwell, who flourished in the Beginning of King James I. Reign. He was an Eminent Commissioner of the Sewers, a Man of great Learning and Experience, and, as Sir William Dugdale says, a notable Observer of the Fens . . . He was consulted by all the Undertakers of his Time, and was Surveyor to the Works of Sewers.

From the Manuscript, which is allowed in Evidence, is printed great Part of the State of the Fens before the general Undertaking to drane them commenced, to which his Name is for the most part prefixed.

From the learned Mr. Bateson, of Magdalen, I had a Manuscript of the same Mr. Atkins which he presented to Andrewes Bishop of Ely Anno 1608.\*

I should be glad if any of our readers could inform me where the manuscripts referred to, or printed copies of them, are to be found.

Armstrong (p. 74) prints considerable extracts from the MS. first mentioned in his preface. It is entitled "Relatio R. A de Mariscis & Eorum Statu Anno 1640 (*sic*) Mense Januarii & Februarii." In the margin is this note:—"A. D. 1604. The State of the South Level."

\* "This is evidently a mistake for 1618. Atkins Survey was made in 1604-5, Andrewes was Bishop from 1609-19."

A MS. volume in the possession of the Wisbech Court of Sewers contains a portion of this Survey; and a comparison of this with Armstrong's extracts shews that the original document was very much fuller than those extracts would have led the reader to believe. But the copy in question is incomplete, having been left unfinished by the scribe who compiled it. This is evident from the circumstance that he had written the initial words of several additional paragraphs. I have seen another copy of this MS. in the library of the palace at Ely. It terminates in exactly the same manner and at the same places as the Wisbech MS.

In this volume the fens and the parishes undermentioned are described, while extracts from the descriptions of such places as are indicated by the letter A are to be found in Armstrong's book.

|                                |                   |                 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Dounham                        | ▲ Soham           | ▲ Rampton       |
| Denver                         | ▲ Isleham         | ▲ Willingham    |
| Fordham                        | ▲ Fordham         | ▲ Over          |
| ▲ Wroxham                      | ▲ Wicken          | ▲ Swavesey      |
| ▲ Dereham                      | ▲ Lanward als     | ▲ Drayton       |
| ▲ Wareham, Wretton,<br>& Stoke | Landweth          | ▲ Fen Stanton   |
| ▲ Norwold                      | ▲ Burwell         | ▲ St Ives       |
| ▲ Methwold                     | ▲ Swaffham Priors | Needlingworth   |
| ▲ Feltwell                     | ▲ Botsham         | Holywell        |
| ▲ Helgay & Sotherey            | ▲ Quey            | Colne           |
| ▲ Hookwold                     | ▲ Horningahey     | Bluntisham      |
| ▲ Weeting                      | ▲ Waterbech       | ▲ Erith         |
| ▲ Brandon                      | ▲ Landbech        | Hadenham        |
| ▲ Lakyngheth                   | ▲ Cottenham       | Wilburton       |
| ▲ Isewell (Eriswell)           | ▲ Stretham        | Ely cam Membris |
|                                | ▲ Thetford        |                 |

It would appear that the surveyor commenced his survey on the Norfolk borders of the Fenland, proceeded by the Suffolk parishes to those in Cambridgeshire, thence to Huntingdonshire and a few parishes in the Isle of Ely. That the survey was continued over all the Fen parishes in the Isle is probable. In another document recorded in the volume belonging to the Wisbech Court of Sewers, Atkins gives his "Observances made by water of the Ground Levell between Well [Welney] Erith Lyttleport and Chatterys, Jan. & Feb. 1604."

W. C. L.

700.—“**Back House Dike.**”—Can any of the readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries* explain the origin of the expression “to be in the back house dike”? I have not heard it now for some years. On the last occasion of my hearing it, an old woman came rather late to a dole-giving gathering. “Why, “you are late, Mrs. M.” “Ees, Sir. I’m in the back house “dike to-morn,” she replied, cheerily and lightly. All the old people present seemed to know very well the phrase and its meaning; and to understand it as implying nothing more than merely being late. That generation has now nearly passed away; and many a curious word and phrase passes away with them. The young people of the present day have their school readers, and have to be brought up to face H.M.I., and they are losing the old provincialisms. The quaint expressions which have been so characteristic a feature in the common talk of the Lincolnshire folk are gradually becoming obsolete: let us put this one on record before it is too late. Fancy a modern schoolmaster demanding an explanation: “Now, John, “what makes you late”? and getting that mysterious reference in reply!

I doubt whether the school boys themselves have the phrase now in their own experience: and even the fully certificated master would be in a quandary. F. B.

701.—**Sers Family.**—I am anxious to obtain particulars of the Sers family in England, and especially in Lincolnshire. From it the present family of Sirr is derived. Peter Sers, “of the Lincolnshire Fens,” is said to have been father of Francis Sirr, of S. Clement Danes, whose will was proved, in London, 11 Feb., 1735. In a MS. pedigree of three generations of the Sirr family in the British Museum,\* a note says “The Surname of Sirr is altered from the German.” The arms used by the family in England are similar to those given for Seers in Rietstrap’s *Armorial Générale*, where we read:—“Seers Prusse. D’ azur à deux chev d’ arg., chaque chev.

\* Add. MSS. 19,149. Sirr, 91.

surm d' une étoile d'or, et acc en p d' une étoile pareille.  
Crest les meubles de l'écu."

The tincture of the chevrons is gold (not as here silver) in the arms of Sirr, which are not however registered in England. Descendants of the Sers family assert that they are of French origin. The Seers family of Prussia was derived from Peter von Seers, (or de Seers, also spelt Sehrrs,) who for the sake of religion emigrated from France, and to whom a son, Philip, was born in 1695, at Herford, Westphalia. (*Deutsch Biographie*, Leipzig, 1891.) It is noticeable that Oettinger's *Moniteur des Dates* refers to the latter as "Sers (Philippe Loth de)" and gives France as the country of his birth.

As to the Sers in Lincolnshire, it will be seen that they were in that county a hundred years back, and onwards, from the extracts given below: and it is thought they were connected with the Fens at least a century earlier. Two Sirrs, Joseph and Henry Charles, were officers in the 10th (Lincolnshire) regiment about 1756 and 1779 respectively; and Joseph Sirr married into a branch of the Hall family of Lincolnshire (*Dict. Nat. Biog.*).

Sers. Peter s John, of St. Martin's London, pleb. Christ Church, matric 20 Feb 1720-1, aged 17. B.A. 22 Jan 1724-5 (as Patrick Seers).

Sers. Peter 1 s William, of Gedney, c<sup>o</sup>. Lincoln, arm. Trinity Coll. matric 3 Feb. 1823, aged 17.—*Alumni Oxonienses*.

1798. 25 Sep. Married, Peter Sers, Esq. of Gedney, c<sup>o</sup>. Lincoln, to Miss Frances Nayler, of the College of Arms, London.—*Gentleman's Magazine*, 1798, p. 810.

1811. 30 Nov. Died, aged 63, Peter Sers, Esq. of Gedney Marsh. His remains were interred on the 6th Dec<sup>r</sup>. attended by a great concourse of spectators. He bore a most estimable character; and, notwithstanding the extensive good he did whilst living, died worth 100,000£.—*Ib.*, 1811, p. 658.

1848. May 3. Died J. Sers, Esq. at Long Sutton.—*Ib.*, 1848, p. 676.

In a grant of arms to Sir George Nayler, York Herald, it is stated (*Herald and Genealogist*, vii. 79) that his sister Frances, wife of Peter Sers, of Gedney, c<sup>o</sup>. Lincoln, Esq., was included.

Frances, the daughter of Francis Sirr, of S. Clement Danes, who married in 1737 Archibald Elliott, brother of Lord Heathfield (Add. MSS. above named and family papers), is called "Miss Seer" in Foster's Baronetage, p. 206, under Elliott of Stobs, and also in the marriage notice in the *Gentleman's Mag.*, 1737, p. 767, which is however indexed under Seers.

HARRY SIRR.

702.—Market Deeping Accounts, c. 1660.—A single sheet of churchwardens' accounts for Market Deeping gives some curious entries about the period of the Restoration. It is without date: but from some names that occur there is no doubt that the paper gives some of the expenses incurred very soon after the Commonwealth came to an end. Quite possibly it is the earliest account after things had become settled. From other sources it is known that Ambrose Bird was churchwarden in 1654, William Bowman in 1660, Theophilus Bout and William Fen in 1661. It would appear that the church, its fabric and services, had been much neglected. The several entries have no dates. A few particulars need explanation.

|   |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|
| Lade out for the disbosments for the Chorch For a Sorpliss<br>and a houd and a herscloth and a communing Cloth..... | 8  | 0  | 0  |
| Lade out for glasing the Chorch windows .....   | 10 | 0  |    |
| Wood for the glasher .....  | 2  | 0  |    |
| Pade Goodman Fen for the prechesining day [probably processioning at beating of the bounds].....                    | 13 | 6  |    |
| Paid Charratte for 3 quarters .....   | 1  | 3  | 0  |
| Paid the pallerter [apparitor] for caring a bill of the Reggester .....   | 1  | 0  |    |
| Gave a man which came with a brefe .....  |    |    | 4  |
| Gave godman Nichols for bringing the booke of the artickeles .....  | 1  | 3  |    |
| Another man that brogt a brefe.....   |    |    | 6  |
| Lade out for Charges for goeing to the bushop visitation to<br>Grantom .....  | 5  | 1  |    |
| Gave a man and a womman that brogt another Brefe .....  |    |    | 4  |
| Pade to goodman Nickols for Bringing 3 bookes .....   | 5  | 10 |    |
| Pade to M <sup>r</sup> Clepoles man for Cilling of a foxe .....   | 1  | 0  |    |
| For Making the communing Cloth.....   |    |    | 10 |
| For bred and bere for the Communings .....  |    |    | 10 |
| Pade to goodman Robesson for the preasesing [procession] day .....  | 10 | 0  |    |
| For a hors for going to Stanfford for wine .....  | 2  | 0  |    |
| Gave a man and a woman for bringing a brefe .....   |    |    | 6  |
| Lade out for geeing to Granton.....   | 9  | 1  |    |
| For the book that the pallerter Brogt.....  | 1  | 0  |    |
| Pade to goodman Johnson that brogt a brefe.....   | 1  | 0  |    |
| Pade to Will Varnnom and for Charges for the Seames<br>[assessments] .....  | 1  | 0  |    |
| Pade to a womman that brogt a brefe .....   | 1  | 0  |    |
| And another womman that brogt a brefe.....  |    |    | 4  |
| Lade out agane for bred for the communing .....   |    |    | 1  |
| And another man that brogt a brefe.....   |    |    | 6  |
| For the sessment making and Charges .....   | 1  | 8  |    |
| For another booke of artickeles .....   | 2  | 6  |    |
| Will Sharp for keping the Reggester & washing the Sorpliss<br>and the Communing Cloth [no amount entered].          |    |    |    |

If the "houd" in the first entry means a hood for the officiating clergyman, this will seem to be an unusual payment to be undertaken by the parishioners. The spelling of



"Grantom" for Grantham indicates the correct pronundiation: the modern practice, which seems increasing, of pronouncing the word as though the letter t belonged to the second syllable instead of the first, Gran-tham instead of Grant-ham, is etymologically without justification.

What can be the meaning of "bred and bere" for the Communion? It is incredible that beer can actually have been used at a Celebration of the Holy Communion instead of wine. It is to be noticed however that two lines further on in the account a horse is hired to get some wine from Stamford. Sometimes, in churchwardens' accounts, ale is provided at times of Communion, as well as bread and wine: as at Frampton, in the same county of Lincoln (*Notes and Queries*, 7th S. iv. 287), as lately as 100 years ago.

On the *verso* of the account are the following entries:—

|  |   |    |    |
|--|---|----|----|
| And Theofelas Ront Reeveed of thes sesments the some of... | 6 | 2  | 6  |
| Pad unto Edward Hiarrison .....                            |   | 14 | 10 |
| Pad unto the glaser .....                                  | 1 | 10 | 0  |
| Pad unto William Boumon .....                              |   | 4  | 0  |
| For y <sup>e</sup> register .....                          |   | 3  | 4  |
| To John Acrill for worke .....                             |   | 15 | 0  |
| due to Ambros Bird .....                                   |   | 1  | 3  |
| For W <sup>m</sup> Fen at a visitation.....                |   | 1  | 6  |
| [erased] for Charces at the vistacion.....                 |   | 5  | 0  |

Ed.

**703.—Dikes and Dykes (667).**—In Taylor's *Words and Places*, p. 256, we read:—"The Anglo-Saxon *dic* is derived from the root which supplies us with the verb to dig, and is used to mean both the mound and the excavation. In modern English we call one the dyke and the other the ditch," or dike. "Probably the masculine and feminine of the Anglo-Saxon *dic* supplied the original germ of the distinctive use." This distinction became more accentuated in the Fenland through the influence of Dutch engineers and their followers. The Dutch *dijk* (pronounced dyke) is a bank or sea-wall. Meer, sluys (sluice), and dam, are also Dutch or Flemish. A native of Zijldijk in North Holland, now at my elbow, is my authority for this. From Dugdale's *Imbanking and Draining* the follow-

ing examples are selected. "The sewer shall be dyked and banked." "The sewer shall be dyked, roded, and scowred." "Ware-dyke should be extended along the river of Burne Ee and be distant from the river C (=100) feet." Here dyke is certainly a mound. This quotation would be of date about 1572. "Make a certain Bank called the New Dyke, from Sozel Dyke to Gye-hirne; and another Bank called the Fen Dyke from Gey-Hirn aforesaid to Pigges-Drove Cross." But Dugdale is not perfectly consistent in his spelling, for he speaks of a "certain bank in Wisbech called Wisbech Fen Dike." Though he is a great authority on matters relating to the Fens, he was not very particular as to orthography, like others of his time. But dyke is his more favoured mode of spelling for a bank, or raised crest. Such banks commonly served the double purpose of road and boundary. In more ancient writers the distinction between dike and dyke is not recognised. Chaucer has "He would thresh and thereto dike and delve." In *Morte d' Arthur* (Lincoln MS., 63) is "Depe dolvene and dede dyked in mouldez." Ray has "Little channels or Dikes out to every bed." The word dyckage, meaning probably embanking, occurs in a "MS boke of accounts of the Participants of the Dyckage of Haitfield Chase of seueral taxes and aseasments by them laide sints 1628 untill 1634."

S. E.

**704.—Olinthus Gilbert Gregory (423).**—Some particulars of this eminent Mathematician, who was born at Yaxley, having been given in these pages some time back, it may be well to note that Sir Charles Hutton Gregory, K.C.M.G., who died 10 Jan. last, was his son. Sir Charles was born in 1817. Educated as an engineer, he became President of the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1868. He was much employed as consulting engineer for railways in the colonies. He married, at the age of 77, the famous actress Mrs. Stirling, who died in the following year.

Some particulars of Sir C. H. Gregory's will have been given in the papers. To his cousin, Joshua Smith Beddome, of Bristol, besides a legacy in money, some plate, and insignia of his orders, he bequeathed two portraits of his father, Dr. Olinthus Gregory, by Chantrey and Evans. To the Royal Military Hospital at Woolwich he left a bust of his father; and to his cousin, Dr. Henry Oldham, his father's hickory stick with an ivory handle, and the centre-piece presented to his father by the Gentlemen Cadets' Company at Woolwich.

Ed.

**705.—Samuel Wilson.**—Mr. Samuel Wilson was sent to Peterborough by the Committee for Plundered Ministers. He is described as Master of Arts, and Schoolmaster of the Charterhouse.\* He filled the office of "Preacher" in the Cathedral from 1649 till the Restoration. He seems to have been on fair terms with the Church party, for Mr. Humfrey Austin was nominated Parish Register in 1653, and he had been residing in the Deanery with Dr. Cosin's family. This extract from the minute book of the Committee explains how Mr. Wilson's income was provided.

At the Committee for Plundered Ministers April 4 A<sup>o</sup>. Dni. 1649.

Whereas this Committee have the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb. 1648 granted the yearly rent of one hundred and five pounds reserved to the Deane and Chapter of Peterborough out of the Baylywicke of Peterborough in the County of Northton., and the further yearly rent of eighteen pounds to them reserved out of Saxton Barnes, and the further yearly rent of tenn pounds to them reserved out of the Parke there, and the further yearly rent of five pounds to them reserved out of the white tythes in Peterborough, and the further yearly rent of five pounds to them reserved out of their possessions called Lows and Simsells, and the yearly summe of seven pounds out of the rent reserved to two of the prebends of Peterborough in the occupacon of . . . . all wch are in the said Citty and doe amount in the whole to the summe of one hundred and fifty pounds per ann. for the maintenance of a preaching Minister in the Citty of Peterborough aforesaid, together with the arrears thereof due since the first day of April 1646; It is therefore ordered that Samuel Wilson M<sup>r</sup>. of Arts a godly and orthodox divine doe from henceforth diligently and constantly preach the Lords dayes as well in the Cathedrall in the said Citty as in the parishe Church of St. Johns in the s<sup>d</sup>. Citty or either of them as shall be most

\* I have not been able to find his degrees either in the Oxford or Cambridge registers. In the register book (No. 3) at Stamford S. Martin's is this entry:—"The purpose of a marriage betwixt Samuel Wilson of Peterborough clark and Susanna Sudlarne widow of this parishe at their request was duly published three severall Lords dayes according to an Act of Parliament in 1653; that is to say Oct. 4; Oct. 11; and Oct. 18; and they were married Oct. 22, 1653.

Danl. Emlyne.

"Witness John Richardson."

convenient, and that he shall have for his said paynes the said one hundred and fifty pounds a yeare until further order shall be taken concerning the said graunt. And the sequestrators of the premisses are required to pay the same accordingly at such times and seasons of the yeare as the respective rents shall grow due, and payable, accounting y<sup>e</sup> same from the 18<sup>th</sup> of March last.

Gilb<sup>t</sup> Millington.

(Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 25302, 145.)

Mr. Wilson found it difficult to make both ends meet. In 1653 his petition to the Council of State for an augmentation of salary was referred to a committee. On their report an order was made (21 July) for payment of an augmentation from first fruits and tenths. No doubt the "well affected" all resorted to the Minster. The provision of another "godly and painful preacher" in 1658, to follow Mr. Paul Panke in S. John the Baptist's church, was intended, as appears from this order made at the end of that year.

By the Trustees for maintenance of Ministers. Dec<sup>r</sup>. 7. 1658.

Whereas there is but one parish within the Citie of Peterborough, viz<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Parish of St<sup>t</sup> John Baptist, the same being of large extent and populous and there is no other Church within y<sup>e</sup> said Citie except y<sup>e</sup> Cathedral church of which Mr. Samuel Wilson is minister, to whose ministry the whole citie cannot, in regard to the populousness thereof, conveniently resort, but it is needful y<sup>t</sup> some other godly and able preacher of the Gospell be likewise settled in the said parish Church. And whereas the vicarage of the said parish Church now voyd by the death of Paul Panke, the last incumbent, is endowed with the yearly pension of nyneteen pounds by these Trustees and Appropriators of the Rectory of St. John Baptist aforesaid, and the White Tythes of Peterborough aforesaid, now out of lease, are of the value of about thirty pounds yearly, Ordered y<sup>t</sup> the fors<sup>d</sup> nyneteen pounds a yeare and ye said white Tythes together with the further yearely sum of one and twenty pounds be settled to and for the maintenance of such Godly and painful preacher of the Gospell as shall be admitted Vicar of St<sup>t</sup>. John Baptist afo<sup>r</sup>d.

John Thorowgood.

Ri: Sydenham.

Edw. Cressett.

Jo. Peacock.

R. Attall.

John Humfrey.

Ric. Yong.

No doubt Mr. Wilson's occupation ceased at the Restoration. What became of him afterwards I have not been able to discover.

L. GACHES.

**706.—Strangers in Hatfield Level, 1636.**—The work of Vermuyden at Hatfield Chase, and the relationship between the French-speaking settlers there and those in the neighbourhood of Thorney, and the great similarity between the difficulties, obstructions, and ultimate success, of the drainage operations at the lowlands in Yorkshire and those at the

Fenland district with which our readers are best acquainted, will justify our devoting a few pages to a notice of some of the early experiences of the strangers at Hatfield Level.

Archbishop Neile's account of the immigrants employed about the drainage of Hatfield Level shews how hard was the pioneer life of the Protestant alien. He lived in a hovel and browsed on coleseed. The Primate looked with no favour on the Stranger Church. In 1634 His Grace assailed the community at Canterbury. "They are like tipplers in a tavern. They come in and eat of the fat of the land, and shall they not conform?" In vain did the ministers testify their desire to live in union with the Church of England. Conformity was the darling of Archbishop Laud's heart. This harsh treatment of the strangers occasioned an article in his impeachment. The Archbishop of York did his utmost to further the policy of the Primate. He offered the Common Prayer in French to M. Bontemps, one of the Ministers: but there seems to have been no printed translation before the version of Mr. Durell, Minister of the Savoy after the Restoration. A little patience and all would have ended well. In the next year a Minister willing to use the Common Prayer appeared. This may have been Mr. Berchett, who was born at Crowle.

This letter is from the State Papers, Dom. Series, Car. I. 327, 47:—

Salutam in Christo.

May it please yo<sup>r</sup> Grace to pardon me if I trouble you with a longer letter then perhaps you would expect. And to begin with those thanks which I owe you, for your great love and favour which you shewed to our Church of York at y<sup>e</sup> hearing of the cause betwixt y<sup>e</sup> Church and y<sup>e</sup> Cittie; and I humbly pray your Grace to doe me this favour to present my most humble and bounden service to his sacred Matie and dutifull acknowledgement of his exceeding great goodness manifested to our Churroh at his Royall hearing and Gracious ordering of that cause.

I make bould to acquaint your Grace with a business of importance, as I thinke, much concerning both the State and the Church, which I knew not of till this my coming into the country, which is this—I finde that y<sup>e</sup> drayners of the Levell of Hatfield Chace doe not imploy any Englishmen, that I can heare of, in the husbanding of those grounds, but altogether imploy Frenchmen and a few Dutchmen who come into the kingdome daily in great numbers, and are already become a plantation of some two hundred families, and more are dally expected to come by ships—

falls. I heare there is at present a shipfull at Hull yet unloaded, and another ship-ful is said to be at Harwich of the same kinde. This new plantation hath been on foote for some yeares past, and they have sett up among themselves the Forme and discipline of y<sup>e</sup> French Church. A barne of Sir Phillibert Vernatty is y<sup>e</sup> place which they use for their Church, whither the whole company have resort on Sondales: where they baptise in a dishe after their owne manner, and administer the Sacrament after their homely fashion of sitting. For their Government they have their Consistorie of the Minister, three being Elders, and three Deacons. The place or barne wherein they performe their divine service is on the very edge of Lincolnshire adjoyning upon Yorkshire; by advantage whereof they pretend license given them by y<sup>e</sup> Bishop of Lincoln *non in scriptis sed verbotenus*, to have their exercises of Religion according to the forme of the French Church as it is permitted to French and Dutch in other parts of the Realme.

Their Minister, who hath been with them these two yeares, is one Peter Bontemps, admitted into the ministry, as he saileth, by y<sup>e</sup> French ministers at Leyden. I have spoken with him, and from his mouth I have the effect of that I have before written. I make bould to send y<sup>e</sup> Grace a letter of his which he wrote to y<sup>e</sup> Sharers of y<sup>e</sup> Levell, whereby y<sup>e</sup> Grace will see how it is indeavored to bring y<sup>e</sup> forme of y<sup>e</sup> French Church into England, which I shall ever to y<sup>e</sup> uttermost of my power oppose; and I trust his Sacred Matie will uphold me herein and inhable me to bring them to y<sup>e</sup> practise of our booke of Common Prayer & none other, they being permitted to have y<sup>e</sup> use thereof in y<sup>e</sup> French tongue; whereof they may have as many books already printed as they can desire.

I think y<sup>e</sup> Grace can remember how that one day I made knowne to the Lords of the Counsell y<sup>e</sup> Sir Phillibert Vernatty had mooved me for my favour that y<sup>e</sup> strangers y<sup>e</sup> dwelt upon his levell might build a Chappell for y<sup>e</sup> exercise of divine service: whereto I answered I would assure them all lawfull favour so as they would conforme themselves to y<sup>e</sup> Church of England: otherwise not. At which time I alsoe mooved their Lordships for their favour that if Sir Phillibert should at any time moove their Lordships to any other purpose, their Lordships would second me in my resolution and answer given to him in this business: of which my motion their Lordships well allowed. And I beseech yor Grace to moove his Matie to uphold me herein that neither Sir Phillibert nor any other may obtaine anything of his Matie to y<sup>e</sup> contrary.

It seemeth that upon y<sup>e</sup> answer y<sup>e</sup> I gave to Sir Phillibert he finding how nere Lincoln diocese bordered upon Yorkshire made his recourse to my Lord of Lincoln, hoping to finde that favour of him which I had denied, and perhaps obtained as much as is aforesaid. I heard they have burned bricks and are preparing materials to build a Chapple there in Lincoln diocese to which all y<sup>e</sup> inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> levell though dwelling in my diocese might repaire: bout I shall, by y<sup>e</sup> grace of God, prohibit those that live in my diocese to go thither. I am verie confident that yor Grace doth favour me in this my resolution and will assist me in constraining to conforme themselves to y<sup>e</sup> Church of England.

I leave to his Matys consideracon with what conveniency and safety to this State such a plantation should be permitted to be of strangers, men of very mean condition, that upon advantage may become as vipers nourished in our bosomes, that take the bread out of the mouths of English subjects by overbidding them in rents of land and doing more work for a groat than an Englishman can do for sixpence. If yor Grace did know in what cottages these people live and how they fare for foode you would wonder at it.

I shall be glad to receive such answer as you shall thinke good to returne me.

Your Graces very loving frend & brother  
from Southwell, 23 Junii 1636.

B. Ebor<sup>r</sup>.

The Bishop of Lincoln probably altered his mind: for the strangers were selling, in 1637, the materials they had provided for the new chapel, and many were looking about for pastures new. This seems to have been the occasion of the petition for their settlement in Gualtres Forest: but something more was necessary to establish a community and endow a church than "good intentions" on the part of the petitioners: there seems to be nothing further known about this forest "plantation."

To the Kings most excellent Ma<sup>tie</sup>

The humble peticon of Robert Long and John Gibbon shewing that after the draining of the Levell of Hatfeild Chace in the countie of York, most of the participants, being Dutch, brought over divers French families out of Normandy and other parts of France being all protestants, and planted them as undertenants in the greatest part of the said levell, where they have since continued, and are very honest and industrious people and very good tenants.

The petn<sup>rs</sup> shew further that they are by purchase become yo<sup>r</sup> Maty<sup>s</sup> feeefarmers of the lands of the late disaforrested forrest of Gualtres in the said county of York, and that the same being wild barren and unmanured they can make no considerable benefit thereof but by leasing it to undertenants that will bestow charges and use industry to reduce those lands to tillage, and that the people of the countrey adjacent either out of combination or wilfulness will not take the same to pay any considerable rent for that they say the same have been their Commons, though your Ma<sup>ty</sup> hath allowed them great proportions in lieu of their commons.

Wherefore yo<sup>r</sup> petn<sup>rs</sup> are constrained to bring some of the french tenants out of the said levell of Hatfeild Chace who being industrious men and skilful in the manuring of grounds doe offer such rates to the petn<sup>rs</sup> for the land as are reasonable, and because the lands of the said forrest ly remote from all townes the petn<sup>rs</sup> intend at their owne charge to erect convenient houses for the tenants, and to build a church for them, if they may obtaine such authority from yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ty</sup> as shall be necessary in this behalfe: and because none of the said french doe yet understand English perfectly the petn<sup>rs</sup> have found out a minister who is beneficed in this countrey who speaketh good french and is willing to do all divine offices in that language to the said tenants and shall therein conforme himselfe to the laudable discipline ceremonies and government of the Church of England, and use no other forme of praiser there but the Common prayer of the Ch. of England but in the french tongue, and the petn<sup>rs</sup> will endow the said Church with the annual revenue of 100<sup>li</sup> for ever.

The petn<sup>rs</sup> therefore humbly beseech yo<sup>r</sup> Mat<sup>y</sup> to grant unto them licence to found a Church there which may be presentative for ever in which divine service & sermons may be exercized in the french tongue, and to settle lands & tythes in mortmain to the parson and his successors there to be presented, and to signifie yo<sup>r</sup> royall pleasure to the Lo. Archbp. of Yorke his Grace that such a minister may be admitted for the present to use the french tongue in the exercise of his said function according to the institution of the Church of England, until those french which shall inhabit there shall by their conversacon attayne to the perfect understanding of the English.

And your petn<sup>rs</sup> shall ever pray &c.

This last is without date. It was probably presented on the same day that the following order was made.

At the Court at Whitehall. 6 June 1637.

His Mat<sup>y</sup> approving the good intentions of the petn<sup>r</sup> in the building of the Church in the place proposed is pleased that Mr. Attorney General prepare such licences for the erecting thereof and settling a provision of maintenance in mortmaine of 100<sup>li</sup> per ann. to the parson & his successors to be there presented by his Mat<sup>y</sup> and his successors for ever as may be fit for his royal signature. And his Mat<sup>y</sup> holding it fit to allow the inhabitants the celebration of Divine Service in a language they understand, is likewise pleased to grant licence that it shalbe read in the french tongue, but in the forme of the liturgy of the Church of England, and likewise that they may have sermons in the french language according to the Articles & Canons of the Church of England till the inhabitants shall attaine to the understanding of English, and then the said service & sermons to be in the English tongue according to the forme articles & canons aforesaid. And the Lo. Archbp. of Yorke his grace is to give allowance and institution to such a minister, he finding him conformable to the religion & discipline here established.

The mass of the strangers were dwelling in the Level in 1655 when Pasteur Jean de Kerhuel with some fifty of the community petitioned the Protector to save them from the violence of rioters who a second time had assembled with guns and other weapons, and had beaten down the windows, doors, seats, and pulpit of their church, laid them in a heap, and set them on fire.

L. GACHES.

**707.—History of Soham (588).**—In Jocelin of Brake-lond's Schedule of Churches belonging to the Abbot of Bury S. Edmunds, among the Churches of the Manors and socages of the Abbot, in 1191, occurs:—"Soham, 6 marks."

The following are from different volumes of the Calendars of Patent Rolls:—

- 1283 (11 Edw. I., 60) April 6. Conway. Writ *de intendendo* directed to the tenants of the Manor of Soham for Robert de Crevequer to whom the said Manor has been granted for life, in exchange for his land of Maylor Saxneyth, with reversion to the King.
- Mandate to Richard de Holebrook to make livery. *Et fuerunt patentes.*
- Mandate to Sheriff of Cambridge to make livery of the Manors of Soham and Ditton saving to the King the corn and other goods therein. *Et fuit claus.*
- 1283 (12 Edw. I., 139) Dec. 11. Leominster. Commission to Thomas de Wey-land and Richard de Holebrook to enquire who ought to repair and maintain the little bridges (*ponticulus*) and causeway between Soham and Stuenteneye, co. Cambridge, which are broken down, and to compel them to do so.
- 1284 (Ib.) Jan. 24. Clipton. Commission to R. de Leycester and R. de Holebrook to the same purpose.



- 1285 (13 Edw. I., 208) June 8. Westminster. Association of R. de Holebrook with William de Pakenham and Alan le Fraunceys in a commission to enquire concerning the metes and bounds in the King's manor of Soham, co. Cambridge, which is ancient demesne of the Crown, within which the King's men ought to dig turf in the marsh of Soham and to cut and take reeds there, and touching the persons who have interfered with them.
- 1289 (17 Edw. I., 328) Nov. 8. Clarendon. Grant to Robert de Crevequer of the custody of the Castle of Bestan, co. Chester, and 100s. yearly for custody of the same, and £45 yearly of the issue of the King's Mill and Bridge of Chester by the lands of the farmers thereof, in exchange for his quit claim of a moiety of the manor of Soham, which moiety the King and Queen formerly granted to him for life in exchange for his quit claim to them of his land of Mailloraxeneyth.
- Mandate in pursuance to farmers of said Mills and Bridge of Chester.
- Mandate in pursuance to Reginald de Grey, justice of Chester, for livery of his Castle.
- 1327 (1 Edw. III., 123) May 29. York. General pardons, including Richard Gegge of Soham, for offences before the coronation.
- 1331 (4 Edw. III., 55) Jan. 1. Westminster. Among the manors granted "to Queen Philippa as dower with the assent of Parliament and in fulfilment of the King's promise on marriage to provide her with lands and rents equal to £3000," is the manor of Soham, co. Cambridge, estimated as worth £100.

These are from the Calendars of Close Rolls, for the reign of Edward II. :—

- 1318 Oct. 27. To Master Richard de Clare, Escheator beyond Trent. Order not to intermeddle further with lands of William de Botiller of Saham, and to restore the issues thereof, as it appears by inquisition that he held nothing of the King in chief at his death by reason whereof the custody of his lands ought to pertain to the King.
- 1322 Hugh le Despenser petitioned the King, shewing that many oppressions, grievances, and arsons had been committed upon him wrongly and against the peace; viz. that the Earl of Hereford, Sir Roger Mortimer, and many others came in St. Barnabas in the 14th year of the King's reign and entered with force many of Hugh's manors, including that of Saham, co. Cambridge, and carried away from the said manors, sheep, cattle, goats, arms, fish, victuals, &c., &c., and tore down houses doing damage on the whole to £30,000.
- The King reversed the exile of Hugh and awarded that he should again have seisin of his lands, goods, and chattels.

The following lists, containing the names of the droves, drains, fens, roads, lanes, fields, commons, and farms, in Soham, form what is believed to be very nearly a complete record of all the place-names in the parish.

#### DROVES.

Shell, Middle and Soham Tunnel Drovers in Middle Fen  
Fodder Fen Drove in Fodder Fen, running N.E.  
Great Fen Drove, through W. side of Great Fen, in N.E. direction  
Mettleham Drove, E. of Great Fen Drove, running N.E.

Parish Bush Drive, S.E. from Mettleham Farm  
 Broadhill Drive, from Broadhill Farm to Hicks' Drive  
 Hicks' Drive, from Broadhill to Gt. Hasse Drove  
 Great Hasse Drive, on W. side of The Hasse into Great Fen Drive  
 Little Hasse Drive, E. from Gt. Hasse Drive, N. of Hasse Farm  
 Long Dolver Drive, from S. end of Gt. Hasse Drive, N.W. to Sayer's Lake Drive  
 Sayer's Lake Drive, E. of North Fields, to Hicks' Drive  
 Bancroft Drive, N. of Bancroft Field, into Long Dolver Drive  
 Thrift Drive, S.E. from Bancroft Field  
 Hundred-Acres Drive, to the 100 acres from Gt. Fen Drive N.W.  
 Eye Hill Drive, N.E. from Soham Causeway  
 Spice Halt Drive, W. from Barway level crossing  
 Two-pole Drive, N.W. from Barway level crossing, parallel with railway  
 Little and Great Sandford Drove, continuation of Spice Halt, towards Barway  
 Highfield Drive, N. from Great Sandford Drive, round S. of Crow Fen  
 Half-acre Drive, N. side of Crow Fen  
 Goose Fen Drive, S. from Great Sandford Drive, to E. of Goose Fen  
 Henny Drive, from Barway Corner to Henny Bridge  
 Fordey Drive, from Old to New Fordey Farms  
 Sedge Fen Drive, across middle of Sedge Fen S.W.  
 Black, New, Great (2) and Middle Drove, all in Soham Mere  
 Holt Drive, from Cotes Drive S.E. of Barway Fen  
 Cotes Drive, from Broad Piece through the Cotes  
 Spencer Drive, W. from Mere-side and Burry Crofts Field  
 Mill Drive, due S. towards Horse Crofts  
 Bracks Drive, N.W. of The Bracks  
 Horse-fen Drive, S.E. of The Bracks  
 East Fen Drive, from East-fen Common N.E.  
 Little Bank Drive, S.E. of and parallel with East-fen Drive

## DRAINS.

Soham Tunnel drain, in Middle Fen, running N.E. into R. Lark, Town drain, N.E. of the Hundred acres, across Fodder Fen into Black Wing drain.  
 Black Wing drain, right angles to above on N. side.  
 Crooked drain is the boundary of the parish on its W. side from the N. of Eau Fen Farm to N. corner of Fodder Fen.  
 Sixteen foot drain, E. of Great Fen, N. of the Crooked ditch.  
 Crooked ditch, E. of parish, on far side of Soham Fen and running N.  
 Twelve foot drain, from Angle Farm S. towards Bracks drove then along the W. side of the Mere.  
 Mill drain across Soham Mere in N.W. direction.  
 Engine drain, N.E. from Mill drain into Soham Lode.  
 Henny drain, N.W. from Soham Mere windmill.  
 Harrimere drain continuation of Henny drain, across Goose Fen.  
 Middle Fen drain by R. Ouse at Barway and running N.E. past Eau Fen Farm.  
 There are about 30 draining pumps, or mills, of various kinds in the parish.

## FENS.

Middle Fen, at N. extremity, bounded by Black Wing drain on N.W. and Soham Tunnel drain on N.E.  
 Fodder Fen, at N.W. end of parish, with the Town drain on S.E. side.  
 Great Fen, S. of Middle and Fodder Fens.  
 Soham Fen, E. of the parish, S. of the Hasse.  
 The Hasse, between Soham Fen and Great Fen.  
 North Horse Fen, W. of North Field.

## ROADS AND LANES.

**FIELDS, ETC.**

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No-ditch Balk—N.E. of Callow Balk by the side of G.E. Railway  
 No-ditch Field—S. extremity of the parish  
 The Bracks—N. of No-ditch Field, and S.E. of Soham Mere  
 Down Field—S. end of parish, on E. side of Railway  
 Ash Closes—S. of Cherry Tree Lane  
 Moat Closes—S. of the Moat House  
 Short Butts—adjoining Moat Closes to the E.  
 Hardcroft Close—S.E. of the Cemetery  
 Burry Crofts Field—E. of Mere Side, S. of Julius Martin's Lane  
 Olipsall Field—S.E. corner of the parish  
 Olipsall Corner—N.W. portion of Olipsall Field  
 Green Hills—S.E. of the Town at end of Brook Street  
 Foxlow Field—S. of Green Hills  
 Key's Croft—at junction of Fordham and Olipsall Roads  
 The Wash—N. of Green Hills

COMMONS.

Qua Fen Common—at Town end on E. side  
 East Fen Common—South of the Weatheralls  
 Burgess Corner—between Qua Fen Common and the Weatheralls  
 The Shade—W. side of Ely Road, beyond Town end  
 Angle Common—E. of Soham Mere, due W. of Moat Gardens  
 First Pen and Back Pen—S.E. of Angle Common, adjoining the Lode  
 Broad Piece—S. of the Shade and between it and the Lode

FARMS.

Shell Farm at N. of Parish in Middle Fen  
 Hatcher's Farm, S. of Fodder Fen  
 S. John's Farm, S. of Great Fen Drove  
 Castle's Farm, S.E. of S. John's  
 Mettleham, about the centre of Great Fen  
 Broad Hill, at junction of Horse Fen and Broad Hill Drovers with North-field Road  
 The Lots, close to Broad Hill  
 Great Hasse, S. of Great Fen  
 Longfield, S. of Great Hasse  
 Hodson's, S.W. of Longfield  
 Hasse, Corner of Great and Little Hasse Drovers  
 Studfield, E. of Crow Hall  
 Crow Hall, N. of North Fields  
 Barcham, W. of Crow Hall  
 Eye Hill, N.E. of Soham Causeway  
 Blockmoor, on Blockmoor Road leading from Causeway to Barway Railway Level Crossing  
 Half Acre, N. of Henny  
 High Field, N. of Barway  
 Eau Fen, W. of Highfield  
 College, S.W. of Barway Church  
 New Fordy, S.W. of College Farm  
 Old Fordy, S. of Barway Church, on parish boundary  
 Henny, between Soham Cotes and Barway  
 Tiled House, Northernmost of Soham Mere Farms  
 Middle, S.E. of Tiled House  
 Angle, S. of Middle  
 Bracks, S. of Angle  
 Bancroft, N. of Qua Fen Common  
 Random, N.E. of East Fen Common  
 Down Field, S. of Cherry Tree Lane  
 Petticoat Chief, between Barcham and Broad Hill Farms

J. R. LORENSHAW.

**708.—Morton's Leam.**—Bishop Morton of Ely, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal, is almost universally credited with far-seeing public policy in his draining operations in the Fenland. He is called the first who attempted any works on a large scale in the North Level. His connection with the district is remembered in the long canal from Peterborough to Wisbech which he constructed, still called from him "Morton's Leam." Smiles, in his *Lives of the Engineers*, says of him :—"This Bishop was the first to introduce into the district the practice of making straight cuts and artificial rivers for the purpose of more rapidly voiding the waters of the fens—a practice which has been extensively adopted by the engineers of the present day."

I was accordingly surprised to find an intimation in a character given of him by Bishop Goodwin,\* that he is said to have "exacted and extorted a far greater Sum of Money from the Clergy of his Diocese than was ever before, and for his private Commodity (which he covetously sought) brought certain Leams or bigger Ditches to his own Grounds about Wisbitch, from the River Nene, which was before Navigable, and of much publick Use, but hath since serv'd for little or none."

Is there any authority for this insinuation? Did any one, except perhaps a political opponent, charge him with undertaking these works merely to serve his own private interest? Where were his own grounds near Wisbech which he is, in the above extract, said to have improved? G. TALBOT.

**709.—Mound at Holbeach.**—Where can I see an account of the opening of a sepulchral mound at or near Holbeach, where some interesting archæological discoveries were made? The opening to which I refer must have taken place about thirty years ago. Were any of the articles found deposited in any museum or library, where they can be seen?

G. TALBOT.

\* Quoted in Buck's *Reign of Richard III.*, in *A Complete History of England*, 1706; i. 539.

**710.—A Reconciliation.**—The privilege of sanctuary belonged to consecrated places, churches, and churchyards. This sprang from the common law, and protected persons who had committed felony from arrest, at any time before conviction; the crimes of treason and sacrilege alone excepted. Where the protection did not attach, a person taking refuge in a church might be taken out by force. It was in some such instance that the shedding of blood occurred which polluted the Chapel of S. Thomas of Canterbury at Peterborough, and for the reconciliation whereof a licence was granted by the Bishop of Lincoln, in 1300. The circumstance was known to Gunton, and mentioned by him (p. 39), but the document here given has not before been printed.

No portion of the chapel as it existed at the date of this occurrence is now standing. A new chancel was erected in the 14th century, which was used after the Reformation as the King's School, until the completion of new buildings in Park Road in 1885. The nave was given by the abbey to the parish, and its materials used in building the present church of S. John the Baptist. In the endorsement of this document the Chapel is described as being "without the gate." It was in fact partly within the Minster Close and partly without, the nave probably extending as far as Long Causeway. Formerly the stream which supplied the square pond at Boroughbury, and Swanspool, flowed over the site. Did this fact determine the selection of the spot where the chapel was to be built? For it was an accidental immersion which first awoke in the gay courtier thoughts which called him to a serious life.

*Littere domini Lincolnensis Episcopi pro Capella beati Thome Martiris extra portam.*

Johannes permissione divina Lincolnensis Episcopus dilecto in Christo filio Abbati de Burgo Sancti Petri Salutem Gratiam et benedictionem. Cum capella beati Thome Martiris juxta monasterium vestrum pro effusione sanguinis in extraccone quorundam confugarum ad dictam capellam et inibi existencium pro ecclesiastica immunitate habenda jampridem temere perpetrata, auctoritate predecessoris nostri supposita fuit interdicto donec dicte persone sic abstracte libertati loci restituti, eedemque persone impresenciam sint vel rebus humanis exempti vel que supersunt prefate capelle redditae seu eiam liberate, nos dictam capellam a divinis laudibus

que inibi ut dicitur fieri consueverunt quantum in nobis est nolentes ulterius manere suspensam, ut ipsam munere consecracionis hactenus nullatenus insignitam, cum aqua per vos exorzisata associatis vobis aliquibus capellanis pro voluntate vestra cum psalmis penitentialibus lavare possitis, vobis facultatem duximus concedendam interdictum prefatum, veris existentibus que nobis ut premittitur sunt suggesta, plenius relaxantes valere. Data apud Edelington ii Idus Decembres Anno Domini millesimo trecentesimo.

This may be translated as follows:—

Letters of the Lord Bishop of Lincoln for the Chapel of the Blessed Thomas the Martyr without the Gate.

John, by Divine permission Bishop of Lincoln, to our beloved son in Christ the Abbot of Burgh Saint Peter, greeting favour and benediction. Whereas the chapel of the Blessed Thomas the Martyr near your monastery, because of the shedding of blood rashly committed some time ago in taking out certain men who had taken refuge in the said chapel and were there for the sake of obtaining the immunity of the church, was by the authority of our predecessor placed under an interdict until the said persons so taken out should be properly restored to the liberty of the place aforesaid; and whereas the said persons are now either dead or the survivors restored to the aforesaid chapel or set free, we as far as in us lies being unwilling that the said chapel should any longer remain suspended from Divine Service customarily, as it is said, held therein, as though it had never up to this time been marked with the function of consecration; since you can purify it by water exorcised by you, associating with yourselves some chaplains according to your discretion, and by singing the penitential psalms, we think that permission should be granted you, provided that what has been told us as is aforesaid is true, to have power fully to relax the interdict before named.

Given at Edelington on the 12th of December, A.D. 1300.

This document is taken from the Register of Abbot Godfrey, in the British Museum, fo. LIX. d. Godfrey of Crowland was Abbot from 1299 to 1324. The Bishop of Lincoln authorising the reconciliation was John D'Alderby. L. GACHES.

**711.—Memorials of Leofric, Abbot of Peterborough.—**

“Whenever we come to discourse on the life and acts of any notable person, we naturally desire to say something of his lineage: not with a view to justify our estimate of his merits by setting forth the virtues or defects of his parentage, the nobleness or obscurity of his birth, but that we may show under what circumstances he was born and reared, what were the influences which developed his intellect and moulded his character: indeed such a procedure is conformable with the most ancient historic usage.

In these times, however, a difficulty arises in finding the firm ground of facts on which to base our arguments and conclusions, or in determining what is mere legend and what is actual truth.

The father of history invariably told what he knew from his own observation and what he learnt from the testimony of others. But our own Chroniclers were often too brief in their records; brief enough to have stated only real facts, and yet their narratives were bemingled with impossibilities.

If they had followed Biblical story as their model, and as exactly as they followed the style of expression, they might have handed down to us reliable annals of individual men. Their ideal, however, was too bald, or they might, in some measure, have taken ensample from Grecian Biography, in which we find, for instance, that the parents of Themistokles were of obscure origin, his father Neokles being an inferior citizen of Athens, and yet we learn he was of the tribe of Leontis, and of the ward of Phrear.

Probably the monastic system begat an austerity which obscured the finer sentiments of its votaries. These were rather the slaves of monachism than the devotees of those who reared the conventual institution. The recluses had a passion for some arts, had some appreciation of the beautiful, and they excelled in architecture; but their literature was mostly dull and stunted, and, we must not lose sight of the



fact that most, if not all, our earliest English writers had a monastic training, and though their works bear evidence of genius, there is scarcely a touch of the classical element in them.\*

However we are greatly indebted both to our early annalists and architects; and to none more than to the abbots and monks of Peterborough, whose scribes have preserved for us, in good sound English, some valuable records of the long past.

Among the abbots there was one central figure, central almost in the period of the monastery, one who not only enriched the monastery, but displayed, as we shall see, his patriotism in the mighty struggle between Saxon and Norman, and who fought for his country at the battle of Senlac.

But of Abbot Leofric there is no proper memorial. He is brought on the historic scene as a monk of Peterborough: we know nothing of his parents, of his youthful career, nor even of his preceptors.

It is flattering to the English mind that he is said to have 'descended of the noble stock of the Angles'; and that he, 'having by his birth, relation to the Royal Blood' was made monk of Peterborough—'chosen by the whole society with the consent of the King'† (Eadward). Yet Arnwig (Abbot for twelve years previous) had we are told some voice in the election, and in the Gemót of 1053, proposed Leofric as his successor.

\* I must express my meaning more fully in a note. Not only did the classic element travel slowly westward, but the political and social condition of these islands did not favour its early introduction, and, when matters became more settled, all the intellectual culture was confined to the religious houses where there was little scope for the display of the elegancies of literature. There was, however, on the continent a more open field on this score, and the Norman monks showed early signs of literary skill.

We had our Cadmon (7th century) and our Bede (8th century). The former was a true poet, but his vernacular verses were not metrical, their distinguishing feature being *alliteration*, in which there is a regular recurrence of initial sounds, as in Hebrew poetry there is a recurrence of *similar ideas*. Alliteration was not an ornament, as with us, but a sort of metre in embryo.

In the literary work of Ælfred the Great there is a glimmer of classic taste, but we have to come down to the 12th century to find regular metre in our writers; and to the 13th century for the rhyming chroniclers.

Felix of Crowland is worthy of mention; he came between Cadmon and Bede. He wrote in Latin, afterwards translated into Anglo-Saxon, which I call English in my text.

† Gunton p. 15, and Supp. p. 256.

Now, the name of Leofric's father is quite hidden from our view. Our Abbot was a nephew of the great Earl Leofric, son of Leofwine, Earl of Mercia, whose descent is given in the *Monasticon* (Vol. III.), and drawn up in some order by Sir F. Palgrave, *English Commonwealth* (Vol. II.); we will not follow that pedigree, but be content to say that no doubt our Peterborough Abbot was a grandson of Earl Leofwine (who lived to the end of the first quarter of the 11th century), and that his father was a brother of Leofric, Earl of Mercia, one who played so great a part in Eadward's reign, and who died in 1057.

It is true that there may have been full and faithful records of the domestic annals of Peterborough, which would have satisfied our quest, had not the fire of 1116 swept them away, as it swept away the embellishments bestowed by Ernulf; however, there is enough to show that Leofric 'ruled the great house of Saint Peter with all honour for thirteen years.'

The history of the Church says:—'He purchased land and bestowed divers ornaments upon it,—the great crucifix upon the altar, a marvellous work in silver and gold . . . it was now called, not simply Burch but Gildenburch, i.e., *aurea civitas*.' (Chron. Petrib. 1052.)\*

The monastery was called Medeshamsted till Abbot Kenulf (992–1006) surrounded it by a wall, then it became Burch;† and W. of Malmesbury specially noted this fact, but he does not name Leofric nor call the place either Gildenburgh or Peterborough. He retained Burch or Burgum in describing the restoration of the early part of the 12th century when Ernulfus (1107–1114) restored the church and augmented the monastery thus:—'In Burgo monachorum numerus auctus, religio bonis monitis confota, ædium veterum ruderibus deturbatis, nova fundamenta jacta, culmina erecta.'

\* Gunton. Supp. p. 265.

† Properly *Burh*, a fortified place. The *cā* sound was a Norman intruder, and W. of Malmes. corrupted the *h* into *k*. (Burk.)

But I will quote the Ang. Sax. Chron. under the date MLII. 'At this time Arnwi, abbot of Peterborough, left the abbacy in sound health, and gave it to Leofric, a monk, by leave of the King and of the monks; and abbot Arnwi lived afterwards eight winters. And the abbot Leofric then so enriched the monastery that it was called the golden borough; it then waxed greatly in land, and in gold, and in silver.'

We learn very little from Ingulphus, but he says enough to show that Leofric was a thorough Benedictine in his enforcement of discipline. He must have been what we call in these days 'a good organizer,' for he had at one time the oversight of five monasteries, surely not because he was in high favour with King Eadward and the Lady Eadgyth, but because of his fitness to rule and guide. Coventry, founded and enriched by Earl Leofric, Burton, Crowland and Thorney, all came under his control; and then as abbot of Burgh he redeemed of the King lands belonging to his monastery, as Fiskerton, Fleton and Burleigh, 'which being demised by lease to Elfgarus, the Queen's Chaplain for the term of his life, he being dead, the Queen would have taken them from the church of Peterburgh had it not been for Abbot Leofricus.\*' Nor was our Abbot regardless of the personal comfort of his subjects, for we read in A.S. Chron., 1066, that 'he did so much good to the monastery of Peterborough, in gold, and in silver and in clothing, and in land, as never any other did before him, nor any after him.'

The Peterborough Chronicle shows, in brief, that he was endeared to the public generally; he was not a mere haughty, high-spirited cenobite; 'He was leaf eall folc,' he was loved by all folk. (Chron. 1066.)

In relation to the four distant abbeys, his office seems to have been patriarchic, if we may judge by one passage in Ordericus, and, it is curious that Ordericus mentions him in this connection only. 'Ulfkytel, a monk of Peterborough,

\* Gunton p. 15.

by permission of his abbot Leofric, received the government of the abbey of Crowland from King Eadward. He held it twenty-four years (1052-1075), and began the building of a new church.' There was evidently some freedom of action accorded to Ulfkytel, and, as abbot, he survived his superior by nine years.

It is not the purpose of this *précis* to attempt an ideal portraiture of the character of Leofric, drawn from a few scraps in the Chronicles, nor to ape the skill of that great modern anatomist, who, from the fragments of some extinct beast, could build up or figure the whole structure of the animal and clothe it with its natural garb.

Let the above quotations suffice. We come, then, to the closing scenes.

King Eadward died, Jan. 5, 1066; Harold was elected King by the Witan. Leofric regarded him as lawful sovereign, and when the shock of war came prepared to defend his lord and country.

But there were those of his kin who were not so loyal and valiant. His cousin Ælfgar had two sons, Eadwine (who succeeded his father as Earl of Mercia, 1062) and Morkere, made Earl of the Northumbrians after the death of Tostig at Stamfordbridge, 1066. These avoided the dangers of the great conflict. But one other great churchman (though not so famous a man as Leofric), Ælfwig, abbot of Winchester, joined in the campaign against the Norman and fell fighting on the field of Senlac.

The historian of the Norman Conquest remarks:—'The renowned Abbot of Peterborough preferred the cause of his country to the cause of his house . . . followed Harold to the fight, and, unlike his brother of Winchester, returned to his home sick and wounded.'\*

In support of this statement Mr. Freeman quotes this passage from *Chron. Petrib.*, 1066:—'And þa was Leofric

\* *His. Nor. Conq.* iii., pp. 496-7.

Abbot of Burh sæt þæt ilca feord, and sæclode þær, and com ham, and wæs deað sone þæræfter, on ælre halgan mæsse niht; God are his saule.\* It may be literally rendered thus:—‘And then was Leofric Abbot of Burh with that same army, and sickened there, and came home, and was dead soon thereafter, on All Saints’ mass-night. God spare his soul.’ Now *sæclode* is the perf. of *sæclian*, to become sick, and does not imply ‘sick and wounded.’

There is little doubt that our Abbot took part in the actual conflict, but there seems no proof that he was wounded in body, though wounded enough in spirit. He came home a fugitive, just escaped, with the few, from the slaughter of the King’s personal followers: and the travelling must have been a sore trial under the circumstances, to say nothing of the toils of a battle which lasted from 9 a.m. on Oct. 14th, till after Harold was wounded in the eye, at 6 p.m. By what means he reached his own Abbey or how long he was on the journey, we know not—all we are told is he died on Nov. 1st.

The community mourned; and, as the A.S. Chron. says,—‘Then Golden Borough became Wretched Borough.’

It was a rueful time that followed the death of Harold and the defeat of the English army. Vengeance fell on all who resisted the Conqueror’s will; even Ordericus, in spite of his Norman proclivities, said, ‘Never did William commit so much cruelty; to his lasting disgrace, he yielded to his worst impulse, and set no bounds to his fury.’

When William heard that provost Brand was elected abbot with the consent of Eadgar, ‘he was very wroth,’ but for awhile was appeased by ‘a gift of forty marks of gold’ from Brand. Alas! soon ‘after that came every tribulation and every evil to the monastery.’ (A.S. Chron.)

The sepulture of Leofric must have been of the meagerest kind:—a solemn requiem by the monks over the stone coffin,

\* The verb *are*, is the imperative of *arian*, to spare, pardon, &c. I use *spare*, as in the *Litany*, instead of “be merciful.”

without an epitaph or enduring shrine,—at least no material token of the Abbot has been preserved—and it was left to these days, at the recent restoration of the Cathedral, to raise a tribute to his memory, in the form of a statuette in the new stalls on the south side of the choir.

Doubtless the tomb was in the old 'Saxon Church,' part of which is still to be seen beneath the south transept of the stately Minster of Saint Peter." S. H. MILLER.

**712.—Cambridge Friars in 1533.**—The will of Nicholas Simond here transcribed (Consistory Court of Ely, H. 120), gives a list of the different establishments of friars at Cambridge just before the Reformation; and is also interesting in other respects.

In the name of God Amen. The xiiijth daye of the monthe of Julye in the xxv yearre of the Raigne of our Sovereigne lord King Henrye the viijth I Nicholas Simond otherwise called Goldsmythe of the Towne of Cambridge goldsmythe and Burges beinge of hole mind and of perfect Remembrance make my Testament and last will in this manner of wise and Forme Followinge First I bequeathe my soule to allmightye God to our blessed ladye St. Marye and to all the holye company in heaven and my bodye to be buried in the churche of the Fryers maiors other wise called the graye fryers in Cambridge before the alter of St. Barber in the same churche Itm I bequeathe for my buriall there for breaking of the churche x<sup>s</sup>. Itm I give and bequeathe to the warden and covent of the same grey [fryers] to feteche my bodye to the sayd grave to burye me other x<sup>s</sup>. Itm I give and bequeathe to the Fryers preachers called the blacke Fryers in Cambridge to bring my bodye to the sayd buriall [other x<sup>s</sup>.] Itm I give to the Fryers Augustines in Cambridge in like manner of wise to bring my bodye to the sayd buriall other x<sup>s</sup>. Itm to the Fryers Carmelitayns otherwise called the white Fryers in Cambridge in like manner to bring my bodye other x<sup>s</sup>. Itm I give and bequeathe to the highe alter within my parishe of St. Bennet in Cambridge iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>. Itm to the Reparacions of the bodye of the sayd churche of St. Bennett vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. Itm I give to the preiste to celebrate and sing for my soule within the sayd churche Dirige and masse before that I be brought to my buriall to each one of them viij<sup>d</sup>. Itm to clarkes being at the same Dirige and masse eche of them iiij<sup>d</sup>. Itm I give to xij pore folkes for bearinge of xij torches about my herse to eche of them ij<sup>d</sup>. Itm when I am buried I will immediately after that the sayde xij torches shalbe distributed to everye parishe churche within the towne of Cambridge one of the same torches. Itm I give and bequeathe to the highe alter within the parishe churche of St. Edward in Cambridge iiij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup> (*sic*). Itm I give to Mr. Lawrence Cooke after (?) in Cambridge to celebrate and sing and a Trentall of Masses for my soule by the space of haulte a yeare a peice of wollen clothe color blacke iiij<sup>s</sup> <sup>or</sup> yards in lengthe and xx<sup>s</sup> in moneye. Itm I will have iiij Fryers of every order one to beare my bodye from St. Bennets churche after my suffrages sayd to the gray Fryers. To every of the same Fryers xij<sup>d</sup>. Itm to every of my godchilder and goddaughters as well wythin the towne of Cambridge as without to every one of them iiij<sup>d</sup>. Itm I bequeathe to Ellen my wiffe

my Tenement which I now dwell in [in] Cambridge with Thappartenunts to have and to hould the sayd Ellen to her heyres executores or Assignes to give and to sell at her Free will and pleasure. Itm I give and bequeathe to the fraternitye and gild of St. Frevile with the Abbay of Elye to pray for my soule vj<sup>e</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. The Residew of all my goods moveable and immoveable above not bequeathed nor assigned my detts first and principallie payd, and this my last will afforesayd fulfilled I give to the sayd Ellen my wife she to do withe them her frewill and pleasure. Itm I make and ordayne the same Ellen my sole executrix. Theis being wytnesses Mr Davyd parson of the sayd church of St. Bennett John Thirlbye of Cambride Notorye Margery Hegge with other mo.

The will was proved 20 July, 1533. The "alter of St. Barber" I suppose means that of S. Barbara. What was the gild of S. Frevile at Ely? In Godwin's *English Archæologists' Handbook* it is said that at Cambridge was also a house of the Friars de Penitentia, one of nine only in all England. The testator does not make any mention of them. Ed.

**713.—The Remains of S. Neot removed to Whittlesea and Crowland.**—The record, made by Ordericus Vitalis, touching the translation of the relics of S. Neot, from their first resting place in the little Abbey at Eynesbury (more anciently named Arnulphsbury), Huntingdonshire, is not unworthy of a place in the *Fenland Notes and Queries*.

S. Neot founded an Abbey, near Liskeard, Cornwall, and the parish still bears his name. He afterwards erected a similar religious house in Hunts., where he remained the rest of his life; he died there and was buried in the Abbey, about 877.

Oskytel, Abbot of Crowland (992–1005), had a sister, Leniova, who, at the same period, was Abbess of Eynesbury. Reverence for the founder of this Abbey prompted her to seek a nobler resting place for the body of the Saint. We are not told that she feared the Danes might desecrate the tomb, but that she did not deem the service of her own house to be such as befitted the memory of so great a Saint. The lady, therefore, invited her brother Oskytel and some monks of Crowland to meet her at Whittlesea, that she might deliver to them the body of S. Neot, which she had brought there with all honour.

"The monks received with joy the gift God had sent them, and deposited it with great ceremony near the altar of S. Mary, mother of God, on the north side of their church. To this day it is the object of veneration to the faithful, and S. Neot's feast is kept on the second of the Kalends of August" (31st July).

This translation of the remains must have been made about the end of the 10th century, for Oskytel died on the 21st Oct., 1005. Now, Ordericus visited Crowland Abbey in 1115, and spent five weeks there, so that S. Neot's feast had then been faithfully kept at Crowland for about 120 years.

I may add that Ordericus' visit occurred just 40 years after Ingulphus became Abbot of Crowland, (that is, six years after his death,) and it is notable that both these men were English born, though they had become Norman monks, (Ordericus of Evroult and Ingulphus of Fontenelles,) and that the Norman Abbot did not wipe out the memory of the Saxon Saint.

It will thus be seen that Ordericus was co-temporary with William of Malmesbury, who completed his *Gesta Pontificum Anglorum* in 1140.

The literary work of Ordericus ended in 1141, when he was sixty-six years old, and he died a monk of Evroult.

S. H. MILLER.

**714.—De la Pryme.**—In answer to Mr. Miller's appeal at Art. 665, I have pleasure in sending a few notes about this family.

The persecution which Richelieu had renewed against the adherents of the reformed religion, and the desperate resistance of those who were besieged at Rochelle in 1627, rendered residence in French Flanders so insecure and uncomfortable that about 80 families fled to England, and settled in the Levels of Hatfield Chase in Yorkshire in 1628 and 1629. Charles de la Pryme was the first of his family who sacrificed country and fortune to his religion. He was of a good family



among the Huguenots, so many of whom in those troublous times were lost to France and gained by England. According to Smiles (p. 355), they comprised the constituent elements of a people, skilled workmen in all branches, manufacturers, merchants, professional men, industrious, intelligent, high-minded, whose influence on our civil and religious history was for good, a direct source of prosperity and wealth. A complete list would, as he suggests, be very interesting. The numbers and names would be no small surprise to many who have given the subject little more than a passing thought. Descendants of Huguenot families are among the leading men of our day.

Charles de la Pryme owned estates at Ypres in Flanders; these, when the troubles were over, he in vain tried to recover. He left two sons, Matthew, or Matthias, born 31 August, 1645, and David, born 16 April, 1648. These were the father and uncle of Abraham de la Pryme, the historian, diarist, and minister, of Thorne, in Yorkshire, whose unpublished works are amongst the Lansdowne MSS. in the British Museum.

From the monumental inscriptions in Hatfield church we take these two.

# I.

Sacred to y<sup>e</sup> Honour of God & y<sup>e</sup> Dead. At y<sup>e</sup> foot of This Pil<sup>r</sup> Lyes Bury'd in certain hope of rising in Christ y<sup>e</sup> Body of Matthew\* Pryme, of y<sup>e</sup> Levels, Gen<sup>t</sup> Son of Charles De la Pryme, of y<sup>e</sup> Citty of Ipres, in Flanders, who marryed Sarah y<sup>e</sup> daugh. of Peter Smagge,† Gn<sup>t</sup> cit. of Paris, & haveing Lived 49 year<sup>s</sup> in this vain world (a patern of Vertue, honesty, and industry) departed to a better y<sup>e</sup> 29 of July A.D. 1694, leaueing behind him a good name, a mournfull

\* In Charles Pryme's will, 27 Dec., 1669, he is called Matthias Prime. Abraham speaks of his father as "Matthias Pryme, the son of Charles Pryme, who came over in Charles I's days from Bper [i.e. Ypres] in Flanders." He adds that they "were most of them undone by this great undertaking; my Grandfather lost many hundreds of pounds by it." He is called Matthias in the Sandtoft register (Art. 652), in which his baptism is entered in 1644. He was born 31 Aug., his mother's maiden name being Free Messman; he was married 4 Apr., 1670.

† Spelt also Smaque, and Smaque. Peter was a rich Frenchman, who left Paris with his whole family to live in the Levels.

wife & of j<sup>j</sup>\* children whome God had given him onely five Liveing, Abraham, Peter, Sarah, Mary and Francis, who out of gratitude to God & duty to y<sup>e</sup> excellent Memory of the dead did most freely, willingly, thankfully, and deserved<sup>ly</sup> erect this mon. to his Memory. Here also lyes y<sup>e</sup> body of M<sup>rs</sup> Sarah Pryme wife to y<sup>e</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Matthew Pryme she dyed 1729, aged 82.†

## II.

Here Lies all  
that was mortal  
of ABRAHAM DE LA  
PRYME F.R.S.  
Minister of Thorn, in the  
County of YORK  
Son of Matthew de la Pryme  
& Sarah his mournful Relict  
he died June y<sup>e</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1704  
in y<sup>e</sup> 34<sup>th</sup> year of his Age.

Tho snatch'd away  
in Youth's fresh bloom,  
Say not that he  
Untimely fell;  
he nothing ow'd  
Y<sup>e</sup> ye<sup>rs</sup> to Come,  
and all that pass'd  
was fair & well  
A Painful Priest  
A Faithfull Fre<sup>d</sup>,  
A Vertuous Soul,  
A Candid breast  
Useful his Life  
& Calm his end  
He now enjoys  
eternal Rest.

This is on a plain stone at the foot of the north-east pillar of the tower. A memorandum in the Thorne register mentions that Mr. Pryme, Minister, died on 12 June, and was buried at Hatfield on 14 June, 1704.

On 6 Oct., 1684, Administration of the goods, &c., of David Prymm, late of the Levells, who died intestate at Pursland (now

\* That is, eleven.

† Baptised, according to Sandtoft register, in 1648; so she would at most have been in her 82nd year, if she died in 1730.

Porsand, or Postland) in the parish of Crowland, was granted to Susanna Gouy, his grandmother (*Act Book, Pontefract Deanery*\*). He was cousin to Abraham, Minister of Thorne.

An eminent member of the family was George Pryme, born at Cottingham in 1781. He was of Trinity College, Cambridge, 6th Wrangler in 1803, and afterwards Fellow of his college. In 1828 the University founded a Professorship of Political Economy, expressly that George Pryme, who had for some years previously been giving lectures in that science, under the sanction of the University, might be appointed the first Professor. He was M.P. for Cambridge, 1832—1841. He died 2 Dec., 1868, at Wistow, co. Hunts.; leaving to his only son Charles (who resumed the old form of the name, De la Pryme) his estates in Huntingdonshire, and (the best of all inheritances) a good name.

S. EGAR.

**715.—Cornelius Vermuyden.**—In a catalogue of deeds, &c., for sale by Mr. Coleman, of Tottenham, issued in March last, occurs this:—

Deed between Sir Compton Reade of Shipton Under-Whichwood in the county of Oxford, baronet, and Cornelius Vermuyden, Esq., and Anne his wife, the eldest daughter of Sir Compton Reade, and Elizabeth Reade, spinster, his youngest daughter, Sir John Gell of Hopton in the county of Derby, bart., and Benjamin Baron of Westcott in the county of Gloucester, Esq., relates to lands in Denford Manor, Ryngsted, Raundys, and Thold, in the county of Northampton, with fine signature of Sir Compton Reade, two skins, dated 1679.

**716.—“Egypt Birds.”**—In a manuscript diary of John Clare, the Helpston poet, under date 6th June, 1825, occurs this passage:—“Saw the Blue, Grey, or Lead-colored Fly-catcher for the first time this season. They are called Egypt Birds by the common people from their note which seems to resemble the sound of the word Egypt. They build in old walls like the Redstart and Grey Wagtail.”

Is this name at all general in the Fens? I cannot find it in any book I am able to refer to. Clare was a careful observer of birds and flowers, and he may be trusted to have recorded the very expression he heard used.

Ed.

\* This is not a literal transcript, but the meaning is preserved.

**717.—Abbot Godfrey's Bridge.**—Before Abbot Godfrey's time the town of Burgh S. Peter lay to the east of the Abbey. The highway from Huntingdonshire then crossed the Nene by a ford east of the bridge, and passed between the east end of the Abbey and S. John's Close where the parish church of S. John Baptist then stood. It was a convenient locality for gathering reeds for thatching roofs and catching ling and stuple in the mere, as the Norman monk sings :—

Mult est Burch ben asis io sacese verreiment  
Del une part mareis et ewe mult aspeassament.  
Full well I know Burgh's happy site,  
The wide marshland and the rivers bright.

Swapham says sub anno 1299, "In his ninth year Abbot Godfrey made a new bridge over the river Neen which in the winter next following was overthrown by the ice. The cost was xiv<sup>l</sup> viii<sup>s</sup> and in his tenth year he made another bridge higher and stronger than the first at the cost of xviii<sup>l</sup> v<sup>s</sup>."

This was in 1299 ; and in 1327 the young King Edward with Queen Isabella came to stay in the abbey founded by the King's progenitors. The King never dies : so the royal corrody can be enjoyed while the foundation stands, if the King can get to the Abbey ; this was the difficulty for the King's horses and his men, and was the occasion of the writ and inquests following :—

Edwardus dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie dilectis et fidelibus suis Waltero de Frisken et Roberto de Malberthorp salutem. Volentes quibusdam de causis cerciorari quis vel qui pontem ultra aquam de Nene prope villam de Burgo Sancti Petri que quidem aqua est divisa inter comitatus nostros Northt. et Hunt. cujus opus fuit de jure reparare et sustentare debent, sive tenentur, et ex qua causa et qualiter et quo modo pontem illius retroactis temporibus reparare et sustentare consueverunt et a quo tempore et quis vel qui pontem illum primo fecerunt et quo tempore et ex qua causa et qualiter et quo modo, Assignavimus vos ad inquirendum per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de comitatibus predictis in confinio eorundem per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit super premissis omnibus et singulis eam tangentibus plenius veritatem Et ideo vobis mandamus quod ad certos diem et locum quos ad hoc in confinio predicto provideritis inquisitionem inde faciatis et eam distincte et aperte factam nobis sub sigillis vestris et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuit sine dilacione mittatis et hoc breve mandavimus omni vicecomiti nostro dicti comitatus Northt. quod tot et tales probos et legales homines de balliva sua in confiniis predictis et vicecomiti nostro dicti comitatus Hunt. quod tot et tales probos et legales homines de balliva sua in eodem confinio ad certos diem et locum quos iis scire feceritis venire

facerent coram vobis in confinio per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit et inquiri. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentas. Teste meipso apud Eboracum tercio die Junii Anno regni nostri primo.

Virtute cujus mandati

Ista fuit capta inquisicio apud pontem ultra aquam de Nene prope villam de Burgo Sancti Petri in confinio comitatum Northt: et Hunt: coram Waltero Friskeneye et Roberto de Malberthorp die Sabbati proximo post festum Nativitatis Beate Marie Anno regni regis Edwardi tertii a conquestu primo secundum tenorem brevis subscripti per sacramentum Ricardi de Croyland, Johannis Peverel, Johannis de Leham, Johannis de Thame, Thome de Wydmerpol, et Hugonis le Templer de comitatu Northt:, Rogeri de Cantilupo, Roberti de Clopton, Roberti Russel, Johannis de Harwedon, Roberti de Stivecla, et Galfridi de Haddon, de comitatu Hunt: Qui dicunt per sacramentum suum quod nullus seu nulli pontem predictum de jure reparare et sustentare debent aut tenentur aliqua de causa. Dicunt etiam quod nullus seu nulli eundem pontem temporibus retroactis reparare seu sustentare consueverunt ullo tempore quia non fuit ibi pons antequam quidam Godefridus quondam Abbas de Burgo Sancti Petri de elemosina sua et ex propria voluntate sua quendam pontem caritative primo et de novo ibi fecit tempore domini Edwardi regis patris domini Edwardi regis nunc Anno regni sui quarto et toto tempore suo pontem illum de gratia sua caritative sustentavit post mortem cujus predictus pons contractus et ruinosus devenit et sic irreparatus permansit quousque adventum domini Regis qui nunc est et domine Regine matris sue ob quorum reverenciam Adam Abbas de Burgo Sancti Petri qui nunc est pontem illum quamvis ad hoc non tenebatur lignis bordis et clavibus emendavit pro passagio eorundem. In cujus rei testimonium jurati predicti presenti inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuerunt. Data die Anno et loco supradictis. (Reg. Adæ, fo. xvi.)

In English as follows:—

Edward by the grace of God King of England Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine, to his beloved and trusty Walter de Friskney and Robert de Malberthorp greeting:— Wishing for certain reasons to be certified who of right ought or are bound to repair and sustain when necessary the bridge over the river Nene near the town of Burgh S. Peter, which river is the boundary between our counties of Northampton and Huntingdon, and who have been accustomed in times past and for what reason and how and in what manner to repair and sustain that bridge, and who first made that bridge and when and for what reason, We have appointed you to enquire by the oath of good and liege men of those counties in that neighbourhood by whom the truth may be known about all and singular the premisses more fully pertaining to the truth, And therefore we command you that at a certain day and place in the neighbourhood which you shall fix for the purpose you shall make inquisition thereon, and having made it

thoroughly and distinctly you shall send it to us without delay under your seals and the seals of those by whom the facts are found : And by this writ we command every sheriff of ours of the said County of Northampton that so many and such good and liege men from his bailiwick in the neighbourhood aforesaid and our sheriff of the county of Huntingdon that so many and such good and liege men from his bailiwick in the same neighbourhood at a certain day and place which you shall signify to them, they cause to come before you in the neighbourhood, through whom the truth of the matter may be better known and enquired into. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patent. Witness Myself at York the third day of June in the first year of our reign [1327].

By virtue of which commission

This inquisition was taken at the bridge over the river Nene near the town of Burgh S. Peter at the boundary of the counties of Northampton and Huntingdon before Walter de Friskney and Robert de Malberthorp on Saturday next after the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary in the first year of the reign of King Edward the third after the Conquest [12 Sep., 1327] according to the tenour of the underwritten writ, by the oath of Richard Croyland, John Peverel, John Leham [Lolham], John Thame, Thomas Wydmerpol, and Hugh Templer, of the county of Northampton ; Roger Cantilupe, Robert Clopton, Robert Russel, John Harwedon, Robert Stukeley, and Geoffrey Haddon, of the county of Huntingdon, who say on their oath that no one ought or is bound to repair or to sustain the bridge aforesaid for any reason. They say further that no one in times past has been accustomed to repair or sustain the same bridge at any time, because there was not a bridge there before a certain Godfrey formerly Abbot of Burgh S. Peter at his own expense and of his own free will first and newly of his charity made a certain bridge in the time of King Edward the father of King Edward that now is, in the fourth year of his reign, and for all his

time sustained that bridge of his own grace out of charity, after whose death the aforesaid bridge became broken and ruinous and so remained long out of repair, until the coming of the King who now is and of the Queen his mother, out of respect for whom Adam the Abbot of Burgh S. Peter that now is, although he was not bound so to do, repaired that bridge with beams, boards, and nails, for their passage. In witness whereof the aforesaid jurors have put their seals to this present inquisition. Dated the day, year, and place above mentioned.

L. GACHES.

718.—**Dikes and Dykes** (703).—"I am inclined to regard these words as identical. The vowels often interchange, but perhaps the second word was adopted from the Danish *dyk*. The main point to be settled seems to be the use of Dike and Ditch. As I have elsewhere\* shown, I have employed Dyke (or Dike) for a bank of earth, and Ditch for a small channel dug out. They are *radically* the same. The Ang. Sax. *dīc*, a bank or mound, is the cognate noun of *dician*, to bank. I note that *dīc* is of the masculine gender, and think that the Danish spelling of the word, and not gender, accounts for the dual form.

Horne Tooke, in his *Diversions of Purley*, has a note on these words, which I here transcribe:—

|       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| DITCH | } | The past participle of the Anglo Saxon verb <i>Dician</i> , fodere, <i>To Dig</i> . As the Latin reputed substantive |
| DYCHE |   |  |
| DIKE  |   |  |

In these words *Dig*, *Dike*, *Dyche*, *Ditch*, we see at one view how easily and almost indifferently we pronounce the same word either with G, K, or CH.

'I DYKE and delue and do that truth hoteth,  
Some tyme I sowe and some tyme I thresh.'

Vision of *P. Ploughman*, pass. 6, fol. 29, p. 1.

'These labourers, deluers and DYKERS ben ful poore.'

*Dives and Pauper*, 1st comm., cap. 46.

'Two freres, walkyng on a DYCHES brynke.'

*Ibid.*, cap. 50.

Dyches brynke = ditch's brink, which would seem to imply *dyche* was a channel."

S. H. MILLER.

\* *Handbook to Fenland*, Introduction, p. vi.

**719.—Vermuyden's Discourse on Draining.—Continued**  
*from page 38.*

*"Now for the Particulars concerning the contriving of the Works between the River Glean and Morton's Leame.*

"For the overplus of the river Glean which drowns Deeping Fenn on that side of the country, is to be brought by a drain into Welland above Deeping, and the slakers to be removed, and the channel to be kept within the banks thereof. I doe resolve only to take the overplus of the river Glean, that the remainder may be kept within the banks, and the slaker to be removed to save Deeping Fenn on that side. And that the towns by which the said river runneth may not want water, and to keep Welland Outfall thereby, and if need be, the sooner to gather head by means of the sluice and sasse which are to be below it on Welland to scower the outfall; and by the said sluice likewise the downfall of this level shall issue by Welland; and the said drain above Deeping is to take away also Stow-brook and the downfall of all the country between Welland and Glean, which now runneth into Deeping Fenn and drowns it.

"The River of Welland is to be brought unto Morton's Leame; therefore a new river is to be cut, to begin near Waldron-hall, and so go on towards the bridge which leads from the Upland to Thorney Abby, somewhat below the bridge, and from thence below Willow-hall, and so to Morton's Leam. And next unto Welland a sasse to be set to let water into Old Welland and to preserve navigation. Whereby will be left on that side of the country between the upland ground and the banks, some quantity of meadow ground and pasture, to serve for receptacles for water in the winter; but these grounds will be by the white waters, and the making of the rest of the land winter grounds, become of a greater value than they are now; and this number of acres and the rest of the receptacles which are to be left everywhere, will not exceed the quantity which would be left between bank and bank, if every channel or river were imbanked, and thereby the waters of the rivers, and the waters which in time of great rains come from the hills, will be kept between the uplands and the banks, and from the drayn'd land; and this will prevent the rising of the waters to a great height, and the banks will thereby in a measure bee disburthened, and so the lands better freed from inundation then by any other way, and the towns which lye without the banks be kept safe from drowning.



"The River of Wisbich, from Guyhurn downward, must be widened, to make it sufficient for both waters. The sluice at Clowes Cross, made to issue the waters of the fenns must be stopped, and the fenn waters for that part of the country must goe part to Crowland, and so by Spalding to the sea, and by Murra Plash, as need shall require ; and if the fall can be gained at Guyhurne, part may goe by Wisbich, otherwise Welland and Murra Plash must remain the only drains for the downfall, which are not sufficient to receive it.

"By these works the lands of Ellow will be freed from inundation, and Deeping be safe, together with the rest of all the lands in that level from Glean to Morton's Leame, and thereby the lands of Ellow, and on the north side of Wisbich, will be discharged of the fenn waters which did run above the same all the winter by the Shire Drayne. And now to the contrary, Welland and the Shire Drayne will be turn'd to be good servants instead of ill masters to those countries, to issue their downfall all winter by them. And so they will be made sure and certain countries ; and if the owners of the lands of Ellow and the north side of Wisbich cleanse their ditches to lead away their downfall, they shall not want any further head drains other than that of Welland and the Sheire Draine. The Sheire Draine must be for a certain length amended something and altered, and a sluice to be set next the outfall of Wisbich River to issue the waters of Ellow and the north side of Wisbich ; which outfall will last always, the work being made as aforesaid.

*"The Work which lyeth in the Middle, between Morton's Leame and Bedford River, the River now running through it.*

"This part is to be drained by a bank which is to go from Stanground to fields of Whittlesey, and from Eldernell to Guyhurn on that side. On the other side a bank to be made from or near Erith Causey along Bedford River to Poedike Bank or Salters Load, and by these banks the waters of Neane on the one side, and the Ouse on the other side, will be fenced out of this part of the Levell, and Neane hereby will be turned to Wisbich.

"But when Neane is turned to Wisbich, and so to the sea with Welland, though there be provision made for all those waters in times of extremity, to bed on between bank and bank, and between the bank and the upland ; yet the channel of Wisbich from Guyhurne to the sea will not bee sufficient (may be objected) to issue the said waters of the said rivers, and so the levels on both sides may be endangered, and the banks be overflowed and broken down when great waters come

down, for want of sufficient issue made from Guyhurne to the sea.

"I confess that it is needfull to make the opening of Wisbich River in a larger manner than now it is, and as is heretofore spoken of.

"But yet its a question, when there is sufficient room left for the water to bed on, whether in such a case the opening in a great measure every where shall be needfull ; and my reason is, that when all those waters are put that way, the river lying in a sandy ground, they will grind their own outfall, especially the lower ends thereof, and make itself navigable, and more deep by far than now it is, and the sluice at the Horseshoe will not be sufficient to carry away the water, therefore the water is to bee *cut* through near the sluice, if the river, by the straight line through the north side of Wisbich be not made, and by this work either way a fall will be gained.

"That this part of the fenn will issue its downfal that way so well as if it were in the Ouse, because that anciently the waters of Neane and the most part of that of Welland and Ouse by the West Water, went by Wisbich to the sea ; and that the channel at that time could not be broader, as may be guessed and seen, then now it is. It shall not need to be widened any more. The two rivers meeting will grind the channel through the marsh, and make Wisbich a haven town like that of Lynn, though not in such measure of wideness.

"And that objection of the sands which the floods bringeth in, and so stoppe the channell again, is not to be considered now ; for when there is a river which hath a back water, as this will have, it will grind deep, and open itself by the water at every ebb ; and for instance, the Ouse, from Little Port to Lynn, keeps his depths by reason of the back waters ; so will Wisbich River keep itself open, having the water of these two rivers.

"Because it may be objected, that the inhabitants of Peterborough have navigation from their town to Lynn by the river Neane as now it runneth, which will be then taken away.

"It is answered, that the works being thus contrived, they shall not need to fetch and carry their commodities so far, but go the nearest way to Wisbich, and then it shall not be requisite to have a navigable sluice at Stanground (unless they and the towns thereabouts shall give sufficient reason for it), which I shall endeavour to avoid with such like works as I can, because they are both chargeable and dangerous in the making and maintaining ; and have their navigation to Wisbich, they shall need no other.

“There is for the service of this work, in the opinion of most men, a drain to be made from Well to fall into Ouse about Germans Bridge, thereby to lead the downfall of this level to the sea, with a sluice in the head thereof.

“For answer hereunto I say, that my opinion is : That this drain and sluice, the reason of the third work, and of the opening of Wisbich River considered, shall not be needful ; for if the Ouse at Salter’s Load be disburthened of the confluence of waters now it hath, then the Poedike where it fall into Ouse, will issue four times more water than now it doth ; for the Ouse doth now receive farr more water than it shall after the third work be made as hereafter is expressed ; and thereby it must consequently follow, that this draine from Well to Germans Bridge shall not be needfull.

“Moreover the great receptacles which are in this Levell by the great Meeres of Witlesey, Ramsey, &c. make it evident, that the downfall will never want a head drain on that side ; for if there were one, yet the waters would first go to the receptacles, and their lye untill the drains receive them : and in that interim the channel of Neane will be sufficient to send it down in good time to the fall, considering the Poedike to be as sufficient as Neane can be ; and the waters of Peterborough being turned to Wisbich, it will disburthen the channell of Neane and the Levell in generall.

*“The Third Work, being a Level on the South Side of Bedford River, and so along and between the Uplands of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridge.*

“The River of Ouse is the principall river that runneth through this part of the country to the sea, and cometh from Huntingdon by Saint Ives to Erith, where it beginneth to come into three fenns, and so to Ely, then to Littleport, and from thence to Salter’s Load, Downham, and Lynn, and so to the sea ; and with the other rivers doth familiarly over runn all these fenny lands on all occasions of floods, which come down by the rivers ; and as this River of Ouse goeth down through the fenns, the River of Grant, which cometh from Cambridge, falls thereinto, some distance above Ely ; the River of Brandon likewise falls into it at Priests-Houses, and the River of Stoke falls into it something above Salters Load : and all these loose their names by Ouse. A great part of the river Neane, which cometh from Peterborough, doth fall into the Ouse, likewise all which meeting in one at or about Salter’s Load, doe surcharge the river in such manner as that this part of the country is more overflown and dangerously

drowned than any other parts of the fenn are : and the said several rivers which fall into Ouse, except Neane, do fall into the south side thereof, the one above the other, and all of them cross wise inclining to the north, and the Ouse running to the east, in such a manner indeed, as if the lands were made purposely to be overflown, and so to remain ; the thwarting thereof divides it into several levels, the one above the other ; and if those lands should be drained by several divisions, then the one level must put his water on the other, and so annoy the one by discharging the other, which would make an imperfect work ; and my reason thereof I have given more at large heretofore. To have this part of the country and those several levels drained and made winter ground, they must be made but one level, and many great alterations are to be made therein, by bringing the very rivers which run through it another way ; for as they cross-ways fall into the Ouse, those lands cannot be made winter grounds by the ordinary way of draining, as heretofore is made mention of.

“Therefore, the principal river, which is Ouse, may not go down through the fenns, as now it doth, but the best way is to turn that river at Erith into and next unto Bedford River, and to shut the passage of Ouse, as now it goeth by a cross bank through the river to the firm land, and so force it into that course as now Bedford River goeth, whereby all the lands below Erith will be freed from the overflowing of Ouse.

“And to the end that the water of Ouse shall not annoy the country any farther, the said Bedford River is to be imbanked on each side thereof, to keep Ouse within certain bounds : the banks thereof must be a great distance the one from the other, so that the water, in time of extremity, may go in a large room to keep it from rising too high, and the more, because there is a great distance of about 26 miles from Erith before it cometh to the perfect fall. And those lands which are to be left for the waters to bed on, will be good meadow ground within some time, improved by the water of Ouse to a great value. The three rivers of Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke, must be made one river, and to that end Mildenhall must be brought into Brandon, and both into Stoke, and all into Ouse ; and in that manner that the downfall of that level may be brought through a drain to be made to a better fall than that of Stoke for the downfall of Grant to go in.

“The land between the new cut and the banks, to the number of four or five thousand acres by guess, will bee fit receptacles for the waters at all times of extremity, and the old rivers will thereby remain to be sufficient drains to lead the downfall to

Ouse within the stop. The Upland Country from Mildenhall to Stoke, is a barren and sandy country. Therefore, the meadows which are to be left between the banks and the uplands as aforesaid, will be very usefull for them, and receive by the white waters within some time as good an improvement as any other lands made winter grounds.

"The River of Neane being turned to Wisbich, as is aforesaid in the second worke, none other river remains to be taken order with but Grant; and this river must be led away by Ouse, in such manner as the alteration of the works shall appear to require, after all the other works be done.

"And for the brooks and runlets which lye that way, they are likewise to be guided, as upon the alteration shall appear to the best service.

"By this alteration, all the rivers except Grant are turned out of their usual course, so that the old channel of Ouse, which was the channel for Ouse, Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon, and Stoke, having now to receive but Grant alone with the downfall, will find room enough within the channel without much imbanking.

"To facilitate this work for a perfection, there must be made a sufficient fall for that levell by a sufficient drain to begin at Ouse Stopp, and so to go downward near the fall underneath Stoke, if need be, to bring Grant and the downfall by this drain below into Ouse at the Ouse Stopp through the sasse, and the sluice to be made there a good quantity will issue; but all cannot issue there, nor at all times, for the rivers, when they are up, will take away the fall; and the drain for Grant to go in must have a good fall continually, to speed the waters of Grant away, because it is mixed with the downfall of that levell, contrary to the rule of draining; and therefore by art it must be observed how that must be, according to the operation which shall happen. And though it be against the rule to mix the downfall with the river, yet in this case it cannot be avoided. And the channel or Ouse, being of a great wideness and depth, whereby it receives not only Ouse, but also Grant, Mildenhall, Brandon, Stoke, and part of Neane, and the tyde of the sea will be sufficient when all the rivers and confluence of waters are led and turned out of this channel, save Grant only. And that there is made a new river or passage to the fall as is aforesaid for Grant and the downfall, which being done, I conceive this channel of Ouse being of such wideness and depth, will be able to receive with ease, the River of Grant, together with the downfall, without prejudice of the lands, the workes being contrived accordingly as they should be.

"Consider that if the three rivers should fall into Ouse where Stoke River now falls in, that then the Ouse will leave all the same waters which it had before except Neane, and then the Ouse will not be so farr discharg'd. That the drain may be spared, for the River of Grant and the downfall of the level to go in, but must go underneath Stoke in a pipe or tunnel, and so in the drain, go into Ouse where the fall is sufficient, unless the turning of Ouse a straighter way to the sea do not hinder the fall; but this must be contrived according to the event thereof, and before no certainty can be had therein.

"And if the three rivers be brought to fall into Ouse where the fall is good and sufficient, then the Ouse at the outside of the sasse, will be discharged of that quantity of water, which together with Neane, I esteem a moiety of all the water it had before, and no question but thereby a sufficient fall for the downfall may be gained, and not to be put to a drain for Grant, and the downfall in that measure of charge which otherwise it would be.

"And by this it may plainly appear to your Majesty, that near the moiety of banks which in the other way of ordinary drayning are to be made, are cut off, and consequently the charge for the making and maintaining of them, lesser this way, than by any the other designs.

"And hereby the land will become more certain for habitation, and by reason thereof, of a farr greater value than otherwise.

"And this is as much as I can inform your Majesty by writing."

## 720.—Fen Provincialisms (659).—

**SMOUCH.**—A loud kiss. "Come smack me, I long for a smouch" (*Old Play, 1606*). Also, as a verb, to fondle.

**SNACK, SNECK.**—The iron fastening for a door, lifted by pressing the thumb on the broad end of a lever which moves the latch. A latch made of wood (or iron) lifted by a string (sneck-band) through a hole from the opposite side, was called a string latch. Verstegan gives the word.

**SNAG.**—The shortened branch of a tree.

**SNAGGY.**—Cross, irritable, petulant.

**SNAFE, SNEAP.**—To rebuke or correct sharply. Possibly from Dan. snibbe, to scold.

**SNASTE OR SNATHE.**—The burnt wick of a candle.

**SNAATH.**—The handle of a scythe.

**SNEERING-MATCH.**—A grinning match. A competition between two or more rustics as to which could make the ugliest faces. Grinning through a horse-collar was more frequently part of the programme at rural festivities in the early part of the century than it is to-day: but it is still occasionally met with. It formed an item in the Jubilee Sports last year in some of the Fen villages.

**SNOW-BALL.**—The guelder rose, *Viburnum Opulus*.

**SNOW-BEEK; SNOW-WREATH.**—A drift of snow. Perhaps equivalent to a snow-rick, a stack of snow.

**So, SOAH, SOE.**—A tub used in breweries for carrying liquor, grains, &c. It is hung on a pole called a stang, which passes through rings on the top, and is carried by two men. Used in 1545 (*History of Boston*). Sometimes called a So-tub. Bailey gives "So, Soa: a Tub with two Ears to carry on a Stag." This last word is probably a mere mistake for "stang."

**SOAK.**—To bake thoroughly, used particularly of bread.

**SOOK.**—The moisture in the soil. "The sock is high" is commonly said when the water is near the surface of the ground. Doubtless from the same root as soak. A.S. *sociam*, *soc*.

**SOOK-DIKE.**—A dike at the back of the bank of a main drain, to carry off the water that soaks or permeates through in wet seasons when the water is high.

**SOD.**—Often pronounced "sad." A square piece of turf. The herbage roots and surface soil cut for re-laying. Colonial settlers have been heard to speak of the old country as "the old sod."

**SOGGER.**—Anything big or heavy.

**SOGGIE.**—Said of a bullock full of flesh, "He is very soggie:" has great weight in small compass.

**So Ho!**—The courser's cry when a hare is found in her form.

**SOLE.**—The floor of an oven. The bottom of a furrow.

"He touched the old sole" would mean that a man had gone as deep as it had been ploughed before.

**SOODLE.**—To go unwillingly. "He'll go soodling along: he won't hurry, you may be sure."

**SOOLE'EM, SOWLE'EM.**—An expression used to induce dogs to fight or attack something.

**SOSH-WAYS.**—Angle-wise, cross-ways. "On the sosh."

**SOSS, SASSE.**—A navigable sluice or lock. Wells' *Bedford Level*, II., 439. (See "Slacker," Art. 649.) Also, a jumble, a dirty mess.

**SOSSING.**—Mixing matters together so as to make a dirty mess.

**SOT.**—Past tense of "sit."

**SOULE.**—The lungs of a fowl. The dark spongy substance situate in the lateral parts of the vertebræ of the back. Chauveau's *Anatomy*, 557. Palsgrave speaks of the "soule of a capon."

**SOUE.**—Used of hay, unripe.

**SOW.**—This word is used for a wood-house in 1500.

**SOUE-GRASS.**—Sour-Sorrel, sow-grass. *Rumex acetosa*.

**SPANK.**—To move quickly. "He went spanking along at a great rate."

**SPELL, SPEILE.**—(1) The cross-bar between the legs of a chair. (2) A splinter. "I've a speile in my finger." (3) A spill, a thin slip of wood for lighting a pipe, is clearly the same word.

**SPICKET.**—The plug of a wooden tap.

**SPIGHTLE.**—Also pyghtle. A small grass paddock.

**SPILE, SPILE-PEG.**—The vent peg of a cask.

**SPIT.**—The depth of the spade when digging, supposed to be 12 inches. When claying (that is, digging dikes or pits in the light black soil of the Fen, from which the clay was thrown over the surface) men would speak of going two, three, or more spits deep before reaching the clay or gault.



They then usually cast out two "draws" of clay and spread it over the land. This was very hard work, and provided employment for many families during the winter season fifty or more years ago. Now, from the improved drainage, or (as some will say) from the clay rising, claying is not needed in the North Level.

**SPITS.**—Pegs for fastening thatch. When used for buildings they are made of willow or hazel twisted staple-wise to span a long strip of willow called a "layer." For stacks, spits, broaches, or stack pegs are used with tar-line or marling. Dan. spid, 'Ger. spitz, pointed.

**SPITTLE-STAFF.**—A spud for stabbing up thistles. Dan. spyd.

**SPOLSH.**—Brittle through dryness. Used of wood easily broken. Of something that broke or fell suddenly it was said "It came down spolsh without warning."

**SPORE.**—Spared, left alive. "If I am spore I'll be with you."

**SPRAG.**—To stop quick motion by some fastening or clog. "He spragged the wheel down the incline." Hence, metaphorically, of stopping too great a flow of language: "He was too fast; I had to put a sprag in."

**SPRATCHED.**—Of eggs, cracked by the young chick. Dan. spraken, cracked. See *Fenland*, 131.

**SPRIT.**—A pole with a long hilt or cross handle at one end, and a small forked iron at the other, used for propelling boats. A.S. spreot.

**SPRUNNY.**—(1) Neat, spruce. (2) A sweetheart.

**SPUDS.**—Potatoes: adopted from the Irish. See also "spittle-staff."

**SPURN.**—A short post set as a prop to the lower part of a gate-post to support it.

**SQUAT.**—Silent. "It is a great secret, you must keep squat." Apparently from the habit of a beast of prey squatting or lying close to the ground so as to escape notice.

Wryde.

S. EGAR.

**721.—Mound at Holbeach (709).**—Your correspondent will find an account of this mound (which was opened in April, 1867) in Vol. 12, 2nd series, page 41, of the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries; being an account I sent to the meeting held Dec. 8, 1887.

Aldershot.

W. E. FOSTER, F.S.A.

With the paper Mr. Foster sent to the Society some pottery discovered at the opening of the mound, and a spur. The following extracts from the paper may be given:—

The mound lies close to the Spalding and Holbeach Railway, on the north side, near the west end of Holbeach station-yard, and about a quarter of a mile from the parish church. It was about 5 feet higher than the surrounding flat country, and about 60 feet in diameter. The spot on which the mound stands was purchased by the railway company, and, not being required, they sold it to a man named Robbs, a ropemaker, in the spring of 1867. The land was then pasture, and had been so as long as any one then living could remember. Soon after Robbs took possession of his purchase he began to level the land by removing the mound; he commenced to dig the side nearest the line of rail; he came upon a great quantity of skulls lying close together in a row, about 18 inches below the surface; these had evidently been collected and moved to the spot, I should say, about 100 to 150 years since. The skulls appeared to be those of adults; most of them had good sets of teeth. I did not notice any fractured skulls.

On digging deeper and more into the centre of the mound a great quantity of human bones, with skulls, were found; these were not laid in order, but had evidently rested there undisturbed for several centuries. On going still deeper and towards the centre, and at a little below the level of the surrounding land, some pottery, charcoal, sand, and burnt bones were found. I regret to say (so far as I can learn) the pottery was not saved, excepting the pieces I send you, which were given to me by Mr. Robbs at the time I visited the spot in 1867.

Near the surface, on the Wignallgate side of the mound, were discovered some complete skeletons, which did not appear to have been previously disturbed. The spur I send was found near these remains.

The land was as soon as possible bought by the Rev. Arthur Brook then Vicar of Holbeach, by whom the bones were reinterred, and the mound reconstructed. He also erected a stone cross on the top. It is known that a chapel dedicated to S. Peter was formerly situated not far from this mound; but nothing was discovered to indicate that it was on this very spot. The site is now the property of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

**722.—Barway.**—In bygone days, when the draining of the Fens was not even dreamt of, Barway must have been a very desolate spot. Situated so near the river, and consequently affected by its swollen waters in flood time, and the “eye” or islet on which the hamlet is placed being so small, the outlook must always have been more or less dreary. It is probable that the number of inhabitants did not vary much before the drainage of the Fens; and so far as can be seen there is little prospect of any great addition to the present population. Out of the ordinary path of men, no stirring events appear to have occurred here, and the information met with is chiefly derived from leases and other similar documents.

It may be best to take the historical items that I have collected in chronological order, although by so doing the history of Church and Manor may not be kept quite separate.

The name Barway, or Barraway may be derived from Barueye, or Barneye, as it is spelt in a document dated 1285. In the Charter Rolls of 1 John (1199) it is called Bewen.

1189. No reference prior to this. In this year, on 26 Oct., Richard I. granted to the Convent of the Blessed Mary of Pynne, or Pyne, the church of Soham with its appurtenances, viz., the chapel of Barway (Bergee) with the tithes of Henny.

1199. A reference is made, in the Charter Rolls, to the above grant as follows:—“*Ecclesia de Saham datur Domini Beate Marie de Pynn cum capella de Bewen.*”

1272. In Calendar of Patent Rolls, 1 Edw. I., R. Fulton was appointed to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by John, son of William de Swaffham Priors, and Matilda his wife, against Juliana late wife of William, son of Robert de Barway (Bereweye), and Nicholas Fitz-Juliana, touching a tenement in Barway.

1274. Appointment of Geoffrey de Leukenore and John de Metingham to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Juliana, late wife of William de Berewey, against John Maudut and others, touching a tenement in Barway.

1275. Roger Loveday and John de Metingham appointed to take the assize of mort d'ancestor arraigned by John Fitz William and Matilda his wife, against John Maudut and Arnice his wife, touching possessions in Barway.

1276. Association of same for same purpose. (Cal. Pat. Rolls, 47 App. p. 98.)

1285. 14 May. The Abbot and Convent of Pyne granted to those of Royly, or Rewley, near Oxford, certain lands, &c., in Soham, with tithes of Henneye, and "*Capella de Barneye cum pertinentiis suis*"; the whole at a fee farm rent of 43 marks per annum; and in November the grant was ratified by Edward I.

1322. William Ringeshale conveyed a tenement in Barway to John Clerke.

1330. Walter Attewell conveyed to William de Swaffham a messuage, 12 acres arable, and 8 acres meadow, in Barway.

1337. Carta Radulphi de Hyntone filii et heredis Johannis de Hyntone conced. Domino Ricardo de Bullyngtone perpetuo Vicario Ecclesie de Wyeham, et Marie, relictæ Johannis de Insula de Frengge, manerium de Theforde infra insulam Eliensem cum omnibus terris, redditibus, et piscariis, quæ ipse Radulphus habuit in eodem manerio et in villis de Stretham, Ely, et Berway, &c. (Lansdowne MS., Brit. Mus., 108.)

1350. Matilda and Alice, daughters of Hugh Albert, conveyed to John Thomas a messuage with croft of one acre, 6 selions arable, containing with meadow adjoining one acre, and a moiety of alder-grove.

1356. The said Alice re-leased the same to Henry Cacher, and also the fishery of Southbeach Lode, and two pools called "Friday" and "Feathermouth" in Barway.

1369. John Syger to John Cook a fishery in Barway, called "Syger's Pool," or lake abutted.

1425. Edward Costermonger and Robert Swan to William Thornton a messuage in Barway with an alder-grove and pool.

1482. William Thornton to Roger Hunt and others his estate in Barway.

1458. 9 Sep. William Wryght of Thetford in parish of Stretham bequeathed to the "Chapel of S. Nicholas of Barway, 12*d*."

1525. Be yt known to all men that we the Church Reves of Soham in the Countie of Cambryge, Edward Bestney, John Peche, and William Mott hath reed of Mr. Edward Myrffyn of London XL*s*. to the buyldyng of ye Chappell of Barway, of M. Doctor Alyn and M. Doctor Coke, Chancellor to my lord cardinall, and to my lord of Canterbury, of the goods of one Roger Hawll, of London, grocer. In wyttenes whereof we have subscriybed our namys wryttn the xxii day of March in ye xvii yere of the reigne of Kyng Henry the viii.

(Signed) Edward Besteney, John Peche, his X synge for Willm. Motte. (Lambeth Palace Library, Court Rolls, 1460 A.)

1567. Pembroke College, Cambridge, previously to purchasing Barway, sold, for £100, the manor of Chesterton Vescia, co. Hunts., 3 tofts, and 140 acres. A deed belonging to the College, 7 July, 1506, speaks of some part of this property, naming the recovery by Thomas Brandon and others of 2 messuages and 93 acres against Margaret Mortimer, widow. Another deed, 28 Nov., 1508, records recovery of the same by John Castell and others against Charles Brandon and Margaret his wife: on 1 Dec., 1518, John Castell conveyed the property to John Browne and William Smith, clerks, for the use of Robert Sherton, clerk, and appointed attorneys to give seisin: on 6 Dec., the College appointed attorneys to take possession, by virtue of a feoffment of John Browne and William Smith dated the previous day.

1572. 19 March. John and Robert Pechey convey the manor of Barway for £233 1*s*. 4*d*., to four Fellows of the College, with warrantie against Sir Anthony Brown, Kt., and Lord Mountague.

1599. By depositions of witnesses of this date it appeared that "the inhabitants of Barway have sometimes hired a reader at their own charges."

1602. 28 July. A true certificate of all such Churches and Chancels &c. now in ruins and decay, made according to commandment given by Dr. Norris, Archdeacon of Sudbury; Mr. Francis Moundeford, his official there, and Thomas Peade the elder, Register.

Barrawaye.—An hamlet belonging to Soham (as it is sayed) the Chapel whereof is ruinated for want of tileing and glasing, and the churchyard walles downe. Theare have ben som controversye about the same Chappell by the inhabitants theare and of Soham, it is a Chappell of ease, being a verie fowell countre and waterye and especialye in the winter season. (*East Anglian*, I. 370.)

1617. Edward Mason of Ordsall, co. Notts, clerk, conveys (with reservation of certain closes) to Math. Wrenn,\* Theod. Bathurst, Alex. Boode, Thos. Bold,† Ralph Brownrigg,‡ Roger Hechstetten,† John Jeffery, John Johnson, Rt. Felton, Edw. Tilman, and Benj. Lany§ (Fellows) for £234, the Manor of Barway, (comprising among others an annuity of £2 7s. 7½d.) formerly the inheritance of Sir Anthony Brown and Visct. Mountague which the said E. Mason, T. Muriel,† and O. Stockton, clerks, and Jas. White, deceased, had purchased of John Pechey, 13 Aug., 1608.

1632 (?) Brief in a case of the King on the relation of Edward Heath, and his wife Lucy, plaintiff v. Benj. Laney, D.D. and the Master and Scholars of Pembroke hall, in Cambridge, defendants. The question was whether the Manor of Barway was a member of Soham manor or a separate and independent manor.|| (*State Papers, Dom.*, 230, 469.)

\* Afterwards Dean of Windsor, and Bishop of Hereford, Norwich, and finally of Ely.

† Afterwards Vicars of Soham.     ] Afterwards Bishop of Exeter.

‡ Afterwards Bishop of Peterborough, Lincoln, and finally of Ely.

] Among the witnesses is Isaac Barrow. He was afterwards Bishop of S. Asaph, and uncle of the celebrated theologian of the same name, master of Trinity.

1655. Extract from the Record Books of the Commonwealth:—"Barway a hamlet of Soham, it is fit to have a distinct minister there with competent maintenance, it being distant 2 (*sic*) miles from Soham and the fens encompassing it round about." (Lambeth Palace Library, MS. 1001, 69.)

1742. The copyhold tenants in Barway Manor in this year were John and Thomas Clack, Elizabeth Dummock, Sarah Derisley, John Murfitt, Elizabeth Plowright, John Roper, Thomas Reynolds and Robert Taylor; Thomas Bonfoy being Steward.

1799. In Kerrich's Collections (Architecture) of about this date there are rough sketches of the south and north doors and west window of the chapel; with the remark that the north door was stopped up and that the east window is modern. This would seem to prove that the present chancel was built *before* 1799. (Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 6752.)

1819. 22 Aug. Barway Chapel was re-opened this day after it had been completely repaired by the inhabitants of Barway, no duty having been done for 8 or 9 years on account of its ruinous condition. Duty to be every other Sunday as formerly.

The state of things described in the following extract from a private letter was existing a few years before 1819. "I remember an incident respecting your parish which may perhaps interest you. It was then in Norwich diocese. Bathurst, who lived to a great age, was Bishop (*i.e. from 1805-87*). My father had business at Barway. He found the Church roofless and the pulpit swimming in a pond! He wrote to the Bishop who had the grievance removed. A curate henceforth supplied Barway. Without being harsh upon the past, we may be thankful for the better spirit of the present age."

And about this time it is said that Barway "market" was held on Sundays, the public house being open the whole day.

1839. An assessment at 6d. in the pound was made to defray the expenses in and about the Chapel and Chapel Yard.

1856. The Chapel is thus described in Parker's *Ecclesiastical and Architectural Topography*. "A small, poor Decorated Chapel with modern brick chancel. The west window is good Decorated with flowing tracery, now blocked up; over it are two bells let into Decorated openings in the gable under the roof, which is covered with thatch and ceiled; the font is plain octagonal Decorated. The doorways are Decorated, but quite plain, with dripstones only; the north doorway is blocked. The buttresses are good, with set-offs." It is dedicated to S. Nicholas.

The south wall of the chancel inclines to the north.

The internal dimensions are: Chancel, length 14ft., width 12ft. Nave, length 39ft., width 20ft. 6ins. Total length 53ft. The Chancel has two windows, one at the east end and the other on the south side. The nave has one on the north and one on the south side, near the Chancel arch, in addition to the west window.

There is accommodation for about 80 persons, 15 in the chancel, the rest in the nave; and sufficient space at the west end for about 30 more. There is no vestry. The Chapel greatly needs thorough restoration.

1868. The roof of the Chapel was slated in this year at a cost of £40, the owners of property in the hamlet apparently bearing part of the expence. The roof was a thatched one previously.

In the District Probate Registry at Bury S. Edmunds are some 16th century wills of inhabitants of Barway. Two extracts from these may be given. William Peachye, 1543, leaves 20s. to Barway chapel, and 6s. 8d. "to make a causey from the said chappell to the house I did dwell in." Thomas Wrighte, 1544, directs that his mother-in-law "shall have one aungell noble to be given to the chappell of Barrowaye to pray for my soule as she thinks best."

Rattlesden.

J. R. LORENSHAW.



**723.—Heron Family of Cressy Hall (622).**—An account of Cressy Hall and its owners is given in the *South Holland Magazine*, published by Appleby, of Spalding, 1869-70.

W. E. F.

**724.—Humphrey Orme.**—The Orme family came into the neighbourhood of Peterborough in 1538. In that year Humphrey Orme, a Groom of the King's Wardrobe, obtained a grant of a lease of the manor house of West Deeping and the moat around it, with a garden formerly in the tenure of Sir D. Phillip, and certain lands belonging to the late Countess of Richmond and Derby (mother of King Henry VII.), for a term of 21 years, from March 1536, at a rent of 76*s.* 8*d.*, on the expiry of the lease of George Quarles. There were several generations of Humphreys dwelling at Peterborough. The third, who was a knight, erected in his own lifetime, in the New Building of the Minster, a tomb with his effigy upon it, which effigy was burnt on the Market Hill in 1643 by the soldiers of the Parliament. He had married in 1640, Elizabeth, widow of Bishop Dee,\* and it appears that he survived his son Humphrey, who is the subject of this note. The Ormes were Royalists; they fought for the King, and compounded with Parliament for their estates. Humphrey, the fourth, married the widow of Robert Aprice of Washingley,† a well known Papist; so he was in bad odour with the well affected during the interregnum. In 1660 he was appointed with Mr. Stafford to command the volunteer force of the Liberty; in 1654 he had been chosen to represent the city of Peterborough in Parliament. This

\* 1640. Jan. 11. Humphrey Orme, Esq., of the city of Peterborough, co. Northton., widower, 46, and Elizabeth Dee, of Great St. Bartholomew, London, widow, 36, late wife of the Revd. Father in God, Francis Dee, late Lord Bishop of Peterborough, deceased, at St. Faith's. (*London Marriage Licenses*.)

† 1646. Humf. Orme and Mary his wife beg to compound for Robt. Aprice the late husband of Mary Orme. He left behind him a son Robt. Aprice, an infant. No order. Committee for Compounding. S. F. Dom. Interreg. 108, 199.)

was a remarkable return, and occasioned the petition following:—\*

To his Highnes the Lord Protector of y<sup>e</sup> Commonwealth of England Scotland and Ireland and his Councell.

Petition of the well affected of Peterburgh

The humble petioon of William Collins, Edward Bud, William Packer, John Cawthorne, James Taylor, John Howson, and Robert Andrew, on behalfe of themselves and the well affected of Peterburgh

Sheweth

That yo<sup>r</sup> Petn<sup>rs</sup>. whos through y<sup>e</sup> goodnes of God have all along stuck close to y<sup>e</sup> interest of Parliament which God himselve hath soe signally crowned did upon Thursday the sixt of July last, being the day of choosinge a Burgess for that Cittie, nominate and elect Major Alexander Blake a person of known integritie fearing God and of good conversation And at y<sup>e</sup> same time many that had been in Armes and divers others who were always full of disaffecon to y<sup>e</sup> Parlim<sup>t</sup>. did nominate one Humphrie Orme esq<sup>r</sup>. who is not a person of known integritie nor of good conversation, and as the petn<sup>rs</sup>. can make appeare: Besides his partie did then oppose the reading of the instrument of Government, and one of them Thomas Dickenson by name did thrust downe the Bayliff from his stoole when he stood up to reade the same, wch together with soe greate number of disaffected persons strangers and others gathered together, as also the undue proceeding of y<sup>e</sup> Bayliff who as wee are now informed had noe right to execute the writt and who refused to take any of theire votes that did live within the Minster close although they are known to be persons of integritie and within the qualifficacons for elecon, whereby the said Major Blake had somewhat the less number, but the petn<sup>rs</sup>. doe humbly conceive that the said elecon doth of right belong to the s<sup>d</sup> Major Blake by reason of y<sup>e</sup> many undue votes that were given to H. Orme.

Yo<sup>r</sup>. Petn<sup>rs</sup>. therefore beseech yo<sup>r</sup>. serious consideracon of the premisses And that not y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> H. Orme but y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Major Blake may be admitted Burgess to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Cittie of Peterburgh if y<sup>e</sup> whole elecon be thought legall and if not y<sup>t</sup> a writt may issue ffor a new choyce

And they shall ever pray &c

Will Collins in y<sup>e</sup> behalfe of the petn<sup>rs</sup>.

Aug. 19. 1654.

Exceptions against Humphrey Orme Esq<sup>r</sup>.

1. That he promoted the Oxford Covenant against the Parliament.
2. That he married a convicted Recusant whose former husband was slaine in the Warr of y<sup>e</sup> late King.
3. That he is a comon company keeper with those that have bene in Armes and entertaines some of them divers weeks together in his howse, and 2 or 3 of his owne servants have been in Armes against the Parliament.
4. That he is a prophane swearer, hard drinker, and a drinker of the health of the late King.
5. That he did entertain divers Cavaliers when they were in armes a whole night whoe had the day before plundered a neighbour Constable.
6. That in his drinking humor he hath twice quarrelled with one Lawrence Robinson, both of them stabbing each other neare unto death the last time.

\* S. P. Dom. Interreg. lxxiv. 87.

7. That in promising votes for him to be Burgess two that had bene in the Kings Army were imployed to goe divers times from house to house and none else but such as were disaffected.
8. That when he was in the Commission of Peace complaint being made to him of divers persons that had prophaned the Lord's day he discouraged the officers and did not punish the offenders.

The petition was referred to the Committee for Elections. A recusant was not wanted in the House during the Inter-regnum : but he had not been in arms against Parliament, and to drink the King's health was hardly enough to unseat him, unless the toast were accompanied with the Cavaliers' sentiment, "God put this crumb well down." The Parliament of 1654 was constituted under the "Instrument of Government," and during the first three Parliaments all who had been in arms for the King were debarred from electing or being elected. Mr. Orme was returned again in 1660, with Lord Spencer ; and against the latter a recount was claimed. On 26 May 1660 the Committee to which the petition was referred sent up a report which is recorded in the Journals thus :—

Mr. Turner makes report from the Committee for Privileges and Elections upon the double Return for the City of Peterborough ; that upon examination of the fact, it appeared that Humfry Orme esquire had, without dispute, the greater number of votes ; and the question remained betwixt Francis St. John esquire and Charles Lord de le Spencer ; that after allowance made of fourteen voices to the L<sup>d</sup>. Delespencer which the Committee conceived fit to be allowed him, and subtracting from Mr. St. John's eighty three votes, which upon the grounds now opened, the Committee conceived fit to be subtracted, and seventy one votes from the Lord Delespencer, concerning which the Committee had passed several resolves and which the Counsel for the Lord Delespencer did consent should be withdrawn, it appeared that the Lord Delespencer had a greater number of voices than M<sup>r</sup> St John, and therefore duly elected and ought to sit in this House.

Resolved,

That this House doth agree with the said Committee that the said Mr. Orme and Charles L<sup>d</sup> de le Spencer are duly elected and do sit in this House.

Humphrey Orme sat only in the first Parliament of Charles II. His death occurred in 1670.\* His son Humphrey, a trustee of the Town Charities was, in 1688, residing in Nevill's Place, Priestgate.

L. GACHES.

\* 1670. Humfry Orme esqr. was buried in the New Building the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March. (Oath. Register.)

**725.—"The Duke's Head" at Thorney.**—I forward some lines by a friend upon a famous old hostelry that has now passed away. A new hotel is being built in Thorney; but it will be generations before it will attain to the reputation of the old "Duke's Head," which was pulled down in 1878. I add a few notes to explain some of the less obvious allusions.

Wryde.

S. EGAR.

At Thorney once in olden times, beside the King's highway,  
There stood an ancient hostelry, its signboard flaunting gay :  
**THE DUKE'S HEAD** was well known to us, and others old  
and sere,

Its mounting was by **RICHARDSON**, the artist a **LANDSEER**.  
In thought we're at the entrance, recalling what we know     5  
Of men and times before us in our **FENLAND** long ago.  
That old Inn-yard's surroundings are present to our view ;  
We note that ancient archway, the coaches whirling through,  
Or spurr'd by opposition, compell'd to make a score,  
The horses on their haunches were pull'd up at the door.     10  
Mine host was in the lobby, with tankard full and bright ;  
'Twas Home-brew'd then for England, sound ale, supreme  
delight.

We note the massive fittings, relics of age and strength,  
The wide old oaken stair, the gallery's great length ;  
We note the open court-yard, that grand Inn-yard of old,     15  
Ladies, trellis'd balconies, grooms and postboys bold ;  
For bold they were none doubts who heard of the mishap  
That near befel **SQUIRE BARBER** when posting north from **SHAP**.  
The sight of old brass blunderbuss and snuff-horn cause a glow,  
They conjure up the memories of **FENLAND** long ago ;     20  
When **RUSSELL** in the parlour which long bore **BEDFORD**'s name  
Met pioneers of drainage, names now well known to fame.  
There gentle, rich, and simple sang loudly **BEDFORD**'s praise,  
And his great scheme of drainage in the **MERRY MONARCH**'s  
days.

In later days well known we feasted with those seers     25  
In whom the bogey Drainage awaken'd strangest fears,

Who at the BEDFORD interest would have their little fling,  
 And be in due time silenced by a quiver of the WING.  
 'Twas here once came VICTORIA, in times that many know.  
 Why is it thoughts fly backward to our village long ago? 30  
 Because that time-worn Tavern, had it a tongue, could tell  
 Of scenes of mirth and gladness on which age loves to dwell.  
 Those jolly times! 'twas pleasure then for wine and ale to flow;  
 There lads and lasses tripp'd it "on the light fantastic toe."  
 It then could tell of changes, of events by flood and field, 35  
 How British pluck had won the day and made our foes to yield:  
 'Twas then a troop of villagers was under WING enroll'd,  
 To fight for HEARTH AND HOME in the great wars of old:  
 Could tell of brave Sea Captain, in days more lately past,  
 Said to have been wounded by a splinter from the mast: 40  
 Could tell of jolly smugglers who would halt here on the way,  
 'Twas said to sample liquors, with the farmers in their pay;  
 Whose jokes, quaint tales, and laughter made the rafters ring  
 In those jolly days for smugglers when GEORGE THE FOURTH  
     was King:  
 Could tell how village folk then bade avaunt dull care and woe, 45  
 When simple joys would please in our FENLAND long ago.  
 When coaches left the road there came an evil day;  
 Hotels declined from custom lost, sure symptoms of decay.  
 But this, an ancient monument, a landmark in the Fen,  
 Should still have been the *rendez-vous* as it was noted then. 50  
 But with Vandalism rampant, a spirit hard to quell,  
 And DEATH within its portals, none could avert the spell.  
 NEMESIS reign'd supreme, the DUKE'S HEAD was laid low,  
 And THORNEY lost its prestige, well won so long ago.

## NOTES.

Line 4. The late W. Richardson, M.R.C.V.S., of Peterborough, said that the mounting was done by his father, who for some time had a shop at Thorney. He said also that the painting was by a brother of Sir Edwin Landseer, who was vexed that his work should be used for an Inn sign. It is to be hoped that the old sign will be allowed to grace the new hotel.

Line 18. Sampson Barber lived at Willow Hall. He married (at Gretna Green) 22 July, 1796, Miss Henderson, of Shap, Westmorland. He died 1 Jan. 1828. (See Vol I., pp. 35, 62.)

Line 28. For John Wing, who died 3 April, 1812, see Vol. I., pp. 84, 128: for Tycho Wing see Vol III., pp. 536, 571.

Line 29. In 1836 or 1837 Princess Victoria called at the Duke's Head. The eldest daughter of the landlord, J. Laxton, then an infant in the nurse's arms, was kindly noticed by the Princess.

Line 37. The Thorney Volunteer Infantry was enrolled in 1803. (See Vol. I., p. 128.) John Wing was at first Captain Commandant, afterwards Lieutenant Colonel.

Line 44. Smuggling was very prevalent in the district. Many tales of adventure and escape, when dealing with contraband spirits, were current among our older neighbours in my boyhood. One Thomas C—— of Wisbech had a cutter that brought spirits, &c., from Holland to the Wash. On one occasion he gave out that he had saved money enough to retire, and that the trip on which he was then engaged should be his last. As they were coming into Lynn Deeps they were captured by the Revenue Officers; the crew were glad to escape with their lives; C——'s cutter and cargo were confiscated. It proved to be his last trip, as he had said. The fish carts that plied into the Midlands early in the century used to carry spirits as well as fish from Lynn. Once, when the driver was hard pressed, he hid the spirits in a sawpit at the entrance of the village, and drove on. Once a hole was dug, the spirits buried, and sheep were folded on the spot by the farmer. On another occasion a farmer was suspected, and the Revenue Officers searched his house; but they failed to discover some brandy concealed in a cupboard at the head of the bed occupied by his invalid wife. I remember once going home late with my Father and meeting "Paddy Tom," who wanted to do business. This (although on familiar terms) my Father declined. At the same time he strongly urged me to have nothing to do with such people.

Line 52. Charles Death, once postboy, was afterwards landlord—the last landlord of the old Inn. He was a most genial host, and highly respected.

**726.—Musters in Nassaburgh, 1536.**—The early history of the Army is found on the rolls of the Constables and of the Earl Marshal. They record the names and retinues of those who appeared at the rendezvous and proffered their service. There are also the Scutage Rolls, and in the 15th century the Commissioners of Array, which show the available force in each county. In the reign of Henry VIII. general musters of all the "fencible men" were held at intervals by virtue of commissions under the great seal, the residents being assessed to provide arms according to their wealth. The King's "press" was much abused. This led to an Act in 1557 for the "taking of musters." The preamble recites "the most likely men for the service have been through friendship or rewards released and others not being able or mete taken and chosen thereunto." Sir John Falstaff, when

under "beating orders" confesses his sins, "I have misused the King's press damnably. I have got in exchange of a hundred and fifty soldiers three hundred and odd pounds." It was hard to get recruits, harder to pay and clothe them.

In 1536 the Pilgrimage of Grace alarmed the State. Men were mustered in North Northampton to stop the pilgrims from crossing the Welland. Sir Robert Kirkham\* was in command. He writes from Offord† besyde Stamford on 9th Oct., 1536, to the Rt. Worshipful Mr. Richard Cromwell:—

I have taken five hundred men able to fight if they had armur and wepons mete for them to do the Kyng service. Howbeit I ensure you they be all naked men,‡ and not among them past xxx harnest men and they all grudge to fyght without harnes. They crye all out for money and without money they say they be not able to do the Kyng service they be so poor of themselves.

The names of the men assembled at Offord appear in muster lists made about 1536 for Nassaburg, Willybrook, and Corby hundreds. The list relating to the towns in Nassaburg hundred, which is co-extensive with the Liberty of Peterborough, is as follows (Q.R. Accounts. 59-20):—

The certificat of Thomas Gryffyn Knight Sr Rob\* Kyrkham Knight John Lawe and Edwardde Warner gent commissioners apoynted for the Kyngs musters taken w<sup>in</sup> the hundred of the Nesse of Burgh, Polkebroke, Navesford and Orlyngber w<sup>hin</sup> the Countie of Northampton as well of the names and surnames of all Arothers and Bilmen mete for warre as of horse and harnes to be hade for the same w<sup>hin</sup> the seid hundreds.

#### NORTHT.

The names and sirnames as well of all and singuler such persons as be abelyd to be mete for the warres as also of all such persons as be assigned to fynde harnes w<sup>in</sup> the hundred of Nassaburg vewyd and taken by Sr. Robert Kyrkeham Knyght Edwardde Warner and John Lane gent.

\* Rob. Kyrkham, Kt., lived in the Manor-house at Warmington. He was a Commissioner appointed to take Inventories of Church goods. When the Priory at Fineshade was suppressed he acquired the site, and his descendants dwelt there for several generations.

† Ufford.

‡ Naked, i.e. without armour. K. Richard II.'s ordinances describe the soldiers as "gens armée et nue"; and Sir John plays on the word "naked" when speaking of his "naked foot with only one shirt in the company, and that made of two napkins stitched together." Temp. Edw. II., the Welshmen, mustered without even a shirt: this occasioned a commission for the well ordering and clothing the Welsh levies with a tunic and belt "de una secta," the earliest reference to a military uniform. The tunic was white, and the Ordinances of Ric. II. direct "a red cross of St. George to be sewn on the front and back of it." This uniform was used till the Commonwealth, when the Parliament adopted red cloth for their forces; and K. Charles II. dressed his foot-guards in red. Royal regiments are red with blue facings, territorial regiments red with white facings. The Duke of York's maritime regiments (Marines) were clothed in buff: when this famous corps of soldiers of the sea was transferred from the army establishment to that of the navy it was supplanted in the army list by the Holland regiment, now known as the Buffs: red with yellow facings.

## VILLA DE PETERBURGH.

*Hund of Nassaburghs.**\*High gate strete.*

|                          |           |                           |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Richarde Bayle constable | } Archers | John Browne               | } Archers |
| Nicholas Bardownay       |           | Anthony Nelson            |           |
| James Halle              |           | Thomas Skynner            |           |
| Willm Chester            |           | Will <sup>m</sup> Tilcote |           |
| Roberte Smythe           |           | Thomas Pykes              |           |
| Richerde Monaster        |           | Thomas Chave              |           |
| Richerde Bretten         |           | Robert Palmer             |           |
| Will <sup>m</sup> Todde  | } Bylmen  | Richerde Burbage          | } Bylmen  |
| John Frances             |           | John Harrison             |           |
| Roger Dycons             |           | Morys Thorpe              |           |
| Richarde Michall         |           | James Bateson             |           |
| Richerde Chewerson       |           | John Shepe                |           |
| John Coke                |           | Thomas Ellis              |           |
| George Smerke            |           |                           |           |

Richerd Robynson will finde harnes for a man.

John Morton will finde harnes for a man.

Robert Rayner will finde harnes for a man.

Thomas Barker will finde harnes for a man.

Peter Edwards will finde horse and harnes for an archer.

Water Baker will finde harnes for a man.

Alexander Hedley will finde harnes for a man.

Thomas Grenehall oon horse and harnes for ij bilmen.

Robert Bruer will fynde harnes for a man.

And all other inhabitants of the same strete to finde horse and harnes for a man.

*Bundegate Strete and Westgate Strete.*

|               |           |                |          |
|---------------|-----------|----------------|----------|
| Willm forsett | ...archer | Thomas Horsley | } bylmen |
| Will Horsey   | } bylmen  | Alyn Lessebye  |          |
| John Stanley  |           |                |          |

John Conyar harnes for a man.

Richerd Morgon the Kyngs Srvaunt horse and harnes for a man and hymselfe.

Robert Thorpe harnes for a man and all the resydue of the same ij stretes harnes for a man.

*Westgate Strete.*

|                           |           |              |          |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| Humfrie Louthe, constable | } archers | John Batson  | } bylmen |
| John Longwater            |           | John Johnson |          |
| Robert Davy               |           | Will. Berge  |          |
|                           |           | John Gyllat  |          |
|                           |           | Will. Bloer  |          |
|                           |           | Henry Kaye   |          |

*Marketstede.*

|                             |           |                  |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| Thomas Harvy                | } Archers | Rich. Swenneston | } Archers |
| Robert Allyll               |           | John Pewter      |           |
| John Newes                  |           | Domynicke Redway |           |
| Henry Crose                 |           | Thomas Gamble    |           |
| Will. Stofyne               |           | Charles Alyn     |           |
| John Roffyn                 |           | Lawrence Leke    |           |
| Nic <sup>ls</sup> . Renolde |           |                  |           |

\* High-gate. This was Bridge Street ward. Towns were divided into gates, i.e., "guet," for purposes of watch and ward.



*Markstede (continued).*

|                           |          |                 |          |
|---------------------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
| John Baldyne              | } Bylmen | John Grey       | } Bylmen |
| Robert Scarlett           |          | John Jarmone    |          |
| Will <sup>m</sup> . Ledam |          | Will. Wilkynson |          |
| John Brymbull             |          | John Wylton     |          |
| Thomas Sharwritte         |          | John Everyngham |          |

John Moulsworth, horse and harnes for a man.

Will Stevenson and all the residue of the same strete horse and harnes for a man.

*Prestgate Strete.*

|                 |           |            |          |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Roger Walker    | } archers | John Byggs | } bilmen |
| Thomas Wynwyke  |           | Will Crane |          |
| Thomas Scarlett |           |            |          |

Richarde Harvy, horse and harnes for a man and all the resydue of the same strete horse and harnes for a man.

*Newmarke and Estfylda.*

|                     |          |                           |   |
|---------------------|----------|---------------------------|---|
| Thomas Prest        | } bylmen | Richerde Clerke constable | } and all the residue harnes for a man. |
| Richerde Dawson     |          |                           |   |
| Richerde Buckingham |          |                           |   |
| John Wylyngham      |          |                           |   |

*Ice.*

|               |          |                          |   |
|---------------|----------|--------------------------|---|
| Robert Derbye | } bylmen | Henry Spaldyng constable | } and the residue of the same towne horse and harnes for a man. |
| Robert Todde  |          |                          |   |
| Robert Clarke |          |                          |   |
| Will. Mason   |          |                          |   |

*Longe thorpe.*

|                   |           |                 |          |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|
| Alexandre Blythe  | } archers | Rich. Hanlyn    | } bilmen |
| Henry Sandell     |           | George Browne   |          |
| Thomas Carryngton |           | Will. Emlyngham |          |
| Nicolas Phillippe |           |                 |          |
| Peter Bateson     |           |                 |          |

This towne to finde harnes for a man.

*Dosthrop.*

|                  |          |                             |  |
|------------------|----------|-----------------------------|--|
| Robert Specheley | } bilmen | John Shepe horse and harnes | } for a man and all the residue of the town horse and harness for a man. |
| Thomas Rawlyns   |          |                             |  |
| John Smythe      |          |                             |  |
| Will. Hackeman   |          |                             |  |
| George Meke      |          |                             |  |
| Will. Smythe     |          |                             |  |

*Paston and Gunthorpe.*

|                   |           |   |          |
|-------------------|-----------|---|----------|
| Richerde Gardener | } archers | Robert Belde  | } bilmen |
| Robert Thorpe     |           | Will <sup>m</sup> . Andrew  |          |
| Thomas Wryte      |           | Edward Prior constable and the residue, horse and harnes for a man. |          |
| John Caster       |           |   |          |

*Walton.*

|                     |          |  |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| John Susan          | } bilmen | and all the residue of the towne horse and harnes for a man. |
| Robert Bertellmende |          |  |
| Robert Buschoppe    |          |  |
| Guy Parysche        |          |  |
| Robert Hever        |          |  |

*Woryngton.*

John Wyldebor constable }  
 Thomas Hewe } archers  
 Will Atkynson }

Will<sup>m</sup> Parker }  
 Nicl<sup>s</sup> Layklonde }  
 Robert Rawlyng } bylmen  
 Richard Goodney }  
 Xpfer Ham }  
 Will. Kyng }

This towne to finde horse and harnes  
 for a man.

*Castor.*

Robert Curtes }  
 Thomas Marshall } archers

Hen Mosse }  
 Will<sup>m</sup> Barnewell }  
 John Wilson } bylmen  
 Will Tyte }

This towne to finde horse and harnes  
 for a man.

*Ellesworths.*

John Curtes }  
 Davy Goodchilde } bylmen  
 John Humfrey }  
 Will Chamberlayne }

Will<sup>m</sup>. Warey constable and the  
 residue horse and harnes for a  
 man.

*Sutton.*

John More }  
 Nicol Beyll } archers

John Rose }  
 Will Nicholson } Bylmen  
 Will Wryght }

This towne to finde horse and harnes for a man.

*Upton.*

Henry Browne }  
 Richard Broke } bylmen  
 Henry Brewster }

Hugh Style constb<sup>l</sup> and all  
 the residue of the s<sup>d</sup> towne  
 to provide harnes for a  
 man.

*Marham.*

Thomas Idell }  
 John Gyles } bylmen  
 Nicholas Wylkynson }  
 John Slater }

and the residue of the towne  
 to finde horse and harnes  
 for a man.

*Thornhawe.*

Antony Oldegarde }  
 Robert Pryor } bylmen  
 Will Alcoke }

this towne to finde harnes  
 for a man.

*Wyttering.*

John Whitwall }  
 Rich<sup>d</sup>. Person } archers  
 John Shelton }

John Borchemake }  
 Raffe Capelt } bylmen  
 Will Goodame }  
 Thos Capelt }  
 John Rede }

all the inhittants to finde harnes for 1  
 man.

*Worthorop.*

Robert Denys }  
 George Armstronge } bylmen

all the inhabitants too har-  
 nessed men and oon horse.

*Walsingham.*

|                            |   |         |
|----------------------------|---|---------|
| Will Detynsale             | } | Archers |
| Thos. Loothe               |   |         |
| Rob <sup>t</sup> . Potte   |   |         |
| John Sutton                |   |         |
| John Greene                |   |         |
| Richard Lakington          |   |         |
| Henry felde                | } | bilmen  |
| Will <sup>m</sup> Edwardes |   |         |
| Henry Detynsale            |   |         |

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| John Kyrbe       | } | Archers  |
| Thos. Edwardes   |   |  |
| Thomas Kyrbe     |   |  |
| Nicholas Hampson |   |  |
| Robert Sellers   |   |  |
| Richard Barendye |   |  |
| John Archer      |   | The residue of this towne to<br>finde horse and harnes for<br>a man. |
|                  |   |  |

*Helpeston.*

|                          |   |         |
|--------------------------|---|---------|
| Henry Sharpe constable   | } | Archers |
| Rowlande Charleton       |   |         |
| Thomas Rayner            |   |         |
| Thomas Watson            |   |         |
| Tho <sup>s</sup> . Alen  |   |         |
| Rich <sup>d</sup> Colles |   |         |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Rob <sup>t</sup> Cooke    |  |
| John Hackeman             |  |
| Rob <sup>t</sup> Lynoolne |  |
| Thomas Hemyn              |  |
| Thos Nobull               |  |
| Thos Beckyngham           |  |
| John Wynstowe             |  |

this towne to finde horse and harnes for a man.

*Peckyrke.*

|                |   |         |
|----------------|---|---------|
| Thomas ffo     | } | archers |
| Henry Brownell |   |         |

|                 |   |        |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Nicolas Campyon | } | bilmen |
| James Glover    |   |        |
| John Pratte     |   |        |

all the inhabitants of the same towne harnes for a man.

*Glynton.*

|               |   |         |
|---------------|---|---------|
| John Halle    | } | archers |
| Robert Colles |   |         |

|                |   |        |
|----------------|---|--------|
| John ffo       | } | bylmen |
| Robert Bocher  |   |        |
| Raffe Howseyt  |   |        |
| John Aschu     |   |        |
| John Wylkynson |   |        |

Thomas Hawe horse and harnes for  
a man.

and all the residue of the towne horse  
and harnes for a man.

*Etton and Wodecrofte.*

|                          |   |        |
|--------------------------|---|--------|
| Roger Sygroffe           | } | bilmen |
| John Rygesbye            |   |        |
| Robert Anngell constable |   |        |

and all the residue of the  
same towne horse and har-  
nes for a man.

*Barnake.*

|                         |   |         |
|-------------------------|---|---------|
| Will <sup>m</sup> Belle | } | Archers |
| John Marshall           |   |         |
| Will. Welles            |   |         |
| Rob <sup>t</sup> Smythe |   |         |
| Ric. Nycolls            |   |         |
| George Specheley        | } | bilmen  |
| Will Pryor              |   |         |

|                 |   |        |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Robert Leman    | } | bilmen |
| Oristofer Belle |   |        |
| John Crafforde  |   |        |
| John Capelt     |   |        |
| John Stele      |   |        |
| John Levett     |   |        |
| John Walbys     |   |        |

*Fylgate and Sowthorpe.*

Henry freeman constable ... archer

|                 |   |        |
|-----------------|---|--------|
| Conenute Denham | } | bilmen |
| John Kurton     |   |        |
| Symon Straker   |   |        |

francis Quarles horse and harnes for a man.

and all the residue of the s<sup>d</sup> towne horse and harnes for a man.

*Depyngate and Masey.*

|                          |   |         |                              |   |        |
|--------------------------|---|---------|------------------------------|---|--------|
| Will Clarke              | } | archers | John Hadson                  | } | bylmen |
| Thos Butler              |   |         | Rob <sup>t</sup> . ffall     |   |        |
| Rob <sup>t</sup> Hoesson |   |         | Rob <sup>t</sup> . Hochynson |   |        |
| Hugh ffysher             |   |         | Gilbert Lyngarde             |   |        |
| Will. Graunte            | } | bylmen  | Martyn Roo                   |   |        |
| Will. Turnell            |   |         | Hugh Grante                  |   |        |
| Will. Northorn           |   |         | Nicolas Bucke                |   |        |
| John Collyngham          |   |         | Rich Idle                    |   |        |

Robert Brudenell horse and harnes for a man  
and the residue of the same towne horse and harnes for a man.

*Norborowe.*

|                |   |         |                        |   |        |
|----------------|---|---------|------------------------|---|--------|
| Robert Mannyng | } | archers | Robert Thacke          | } | bilmen |
| Thos Wells     |   |         | Rob <sup>t</sup> Ataye |   |        |
| Will Gells     |   |         |                        |   |        |

this towne to finde horse and harnes for a man.

*Ufforde.*

|               |           |                         |   |        |
|---------------|-----------|-------------------------|---|--------|
| John Gelsaye  | ...aroker | Rob <sup>t</sup> Bolmen | } | bylmen |
| Will Adson    | }         | Will. Mannyng           |   |        |
| Thomas Gylles |           | John Tompeon            |   |        |
|               |           | Cristofer Idell         |   |        |

this towne to finde horse and harnes for a man.

*Badynghton.*

|               |   |         |                |   |        |
|---------------|---|---------|----------------|---|--------|
| Hewe Barker   | } | archers | Rich Able      | } | bilmen |
| Edward Wryght |   |         | Rc. Mole       |   |        |
|               |   |         | Randall Byrde  |   |        |
|               |   |         | Henry Calcote  |   |        |
|               |   |         | Nicolas Jacson |   |        |

towne to finde horse and harnes for  
a man

*Ashton.*

|                                       |           |              |   |        |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|---|--------|
| Will. Coxe                            | ...aroker | James Merell | } | bilmen |
| this towne to finde harnes for a man. |           | Rich. Idle   |   |        |

L. GACHES.

727.—Terrier of Deeping S. James, 1724.—The following paper has been copied by permission of the Rev. S. W. Skene, Vicar of Deeping S. James. There are several matters of interest in it. The spelling is copied exactly; but the punctuation is not followed. In the original there is a colon after almost every word. "Lat," before the name Jeasson, though written as if a Christian name, probably means simply "late"; the holding at the time was unoccupied, but had recently been in the tenure of Jeasson.

A coppey of y<sup>e</sup> tarrar y<sup>t</sup> was Sent to the Bishops Vistacion at Grantham y<sup>e</sup> 21<sup>th</sup> day of June 1724.

June y<sup>e</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>. 1724. A Terror of y<sup>e</sup> Gleebe Land of Deeping St James in y<sup>e</sup> County of Lincoln is as Followeth, viz: one Vickeridge house, Consisting of Tow bayes of Building, the walls bult with Studd and

Mortter (a) and covered with Thacks, One Flore of Ston and the other of bordes, Tow Chambers the flores both of them of bordes, One outhouse consisting of one bay of building, the walls of Studd and Mortter, and covered w<sup>th</sup> Thacke, Standing on One Rood of Ground, Abuting on y<sup>e</sup> Church Causway North, and the Kings Street South Lying between the houses of Sir Franc. Wichcote in tenure of John Maser on y<sup>e</sup> East, and Lat. Jeasson west, Gleebe land One acre and three Roods, The acer Lyeth between y<sup>e</sup> Land of Sir Franc. Wichcote in tennure of Tho<sup>m</sup>. Spriggs on y<sup>e</sup> South, and Ligon Folkner on the North Tho<sup>m</sup>. Spriggs East and Edwa Darley west, And the three Roods lyeth between the land of Sir Franc. Wichcote in tenure of John Holmes on y<sup>e</sup> South, and Franc. Garford North, Will<sup>m</sup>. Jackson Easte, and the Land of Lindsey Hust in tenure of Will<sup>m</sup>. Hughell west; Theire is purchased as An Augmentation to this Vicarage Fortey one Acers of Land Lying in the parishes of Swineshead & Wigtoft, viz: thirty nine Acers in y<sup>e</sup> parish of Swineshead & Tow Acres in Wigtoft parish,\* but how the Abutting & bounding we cannot tell Having not yet got the Deeds Out of y<sup>e</sup> Attorneys Hands, Sir Franc. Wichcote is Impropriator, and hath All y<sup>e</sup> Tithes: he pays y<sup>e</sup> Vicar Six pound thirteen Shillings & four pence A year Only, whereas the former Impropriators paid the Vicar fifteen pound A year, time out of Mind. The Several Customs belonging to y<sup>e</sup> Parishoners Are as Followeth: Sir Franc. Wichcote Receiveth All y<sup>e</sup> Corn Tith, Hemp, And Flax; and Touching of Easter offerings he Receiveth for A [torn] Maer and foole (b) one peny, A Cow and a Calfe Tow penc, and for a Stropmilch (c) Cow one peny; hee Receiveth Every Seaven Piggs one, and Giveth y<sup>e</sup> Parishoner three half peneys, and Under Seaven piggs y<sup>e</sup> Parishoner payeth A half peny A pigg; hee Receiveth likewise at Seaven lambes one, and payeth y<sup>e</sup> Parishoner three half peneys, and Under Seaven Hee Receiveth A half peny A Lambe; And for wool hee Receiveth y<sup>e</sup> Tenth Fleece or Tenth pound; And for Grass hee have in Some of ouer Meadows and Pastures Tith Acres, and where None hee Receiveth Two peneys an Aker for Grass; And Touching of y<sup>e</sup> Surplice fees the Vicer Receiveth for Every Churching one Shilling; and for Every Marriage Two Shillings and Six peneys; And for Every burial one Shilling and four penc. The Mortuary the Impropriatr Receiveth. and is Usaly ten Shillings. The Furniture belonging to y<sup>e</sup> Church is one Surplice and Hudd (d); two Communion clothes, one woolling and y<sup>e</sup> other Linning; one Puter flagon; one puter Cupp; Like wise one Silver Cupp containing in weight Ten Ounces and A half, with this in Scription on itt, R. L. and R. B. Churchwardens of St. James Deeping in y<sup>e</sup> yere 1632. As to Bookes, there is tow Comon prair bookes, A Large bible, A Booke of Homileys, and A Large Regester booke. In y<sup>e</sup> Steeple five bells, and A Clocke. And as to y<sup>e</sup> Church Repaires and Church yard Fences, The Church is Repaired by the Parishoners, and y<sup>e</sup> Chancell by Sir. Franc. Wichcote: the Church yard is fenced part by Sir. Franc. Wichcote, and part by the Parishoners. And as to the usal and accustomed wages with [which] the Clarke Receiveth is four peneys A house, or four peneys A family, of All Such as pay to the Church and Poor.

**Tho<sup>s</sup>. Barnfield Vicar**

Attested by Thomas Measure Tho Watson  
Church  
wardens }

The expression "Mud and Stud" is still commonly used for the sort of wall (a) here described. Miss Baker, in her *Glossary of Northamptonshire Words and Phrases*, notes the

\* Interlined in much later hand is this:—now in tenure of Marmaduke Penson of Kerton.

form "Stud and Teer," and defines it as "A rustic mode of building a wall with interwoven sticks instead of lath, plastered or teer'd with dirt instead of mortar." "A maer and foole" (*b*) is of course a mare and foal. The word in the piece torn was possibly "horse." I do not find a "stropmilch cow" (*c*) in any glossary. It is curious to find a hood (*d*) among the furniture of the church. It may be remembered that the parishioners of Market Deeping (Art. 702) purchased a hood for the clergyman soon after the Restoration. The land at Swineshead and Wigtoft still belongs to the living.

ED.

**728.—Statue of Byron at Trinity College, Cambridge.—**

An account of the circumstances connected with the placing of the statue of Byron in the Library of Trinity College was published in *Notes and Queries* in 1881. It was from the pen of the Librarian (the Rev. R. Sinker, M.A., now D.D.), and had been prepared after reading some correspondence placed in his hands by Mr. C. De la Pryme, of Wistow Lodge, Huntingdon, who also supplied a short narrative to connect the letters together.

Mr. De la Pryme has obligingly forwarded a reprint of this article, rightly judging that a condensed account will prove of interest to our readers, especially to those residing in Cambridgeshire.

A fund was raised for the purpose of erecting a statue to Lord Byron, which it was intended to offer for erection in Westminster Abbey, or St. Paul's Cathedral, or the British Museum, or the National Gallery. At a meeting of the subscribers in May, 1829, the Chairman, Sir John Cam Hobhouse (afterwards Lord Broughton) was commissioned to write to Baron Thorwaldsen, requesting him to undertake the work. In his letter Sir John said the proposed statue should be about eight feet in height, but that the subscriptions only admitted of his offering £1000 for its execution, as the port dues, pedestal, &c., might be calculated to amount to £500

more. In a second letter, written in reply to the Baron's consenting to undertake the commission, dated 24th Nov. 1829, Sir John conveys the great thanks of the subscribers to him "pour la sympathie généreuse et la rare libéralité qui ont dicté votre offre de nous donner la statue et même d'y ajouter un bas-relief, pour les mille livres sterling—somme, à la vérité, pas proportionnée au travail proposé." The list of subscribers, he goes on to say, includes the names of many of the most distinguished men in England. As friends of their country, of the poet, and of art, "ils vous seront à jamais redevables pour le noble dévouement avec lequel vous avez bien voulu vous prêter à leur digne projet."

On its completion the statue was sent to England and offered to the authorities of Westminster Abbey. The Dean, Dr. Ireland, declined it; and it consequently lay for many years in the Custom House vaults. Shortly before Dean Ireland's death it occurred to Mr. De la Pryme that a place might be found for the statue in Trinity College; and he wrote on the subject to Dr. Peacock, then Senior Tutor, afterwards Dean of Ely. In his reply, 17 March, 1840, Dr. Peacock professed himself most anxious to forward the adoption of the suggestion by every means in his power, but did not like the idea of proposing it to the Master, "who has no sympathy with such schemes of doing honour to the great." The matter accordingly rested for a time. Two years later Dr. Turton, Dean of Peterborough, succeeded Dr. Ireland in the Deanery of Westminster, and the statue was a second time offered to the Abbey, and a second time refused. In 1843 application was made to Dr. Whewell, who had become Master of Trinity. He said he would do all in his power "to facilitate the reception of the gift, which would certainly be a noble ornament to the University." But he had misunderstood the terms of the proposal, being clearly under the impression that the statue had to be purchased, suggesting indeed himself that some person or set of persons should buy it and give it to the University. When it was

explained that the statue had already been paid for, he was very eager it should be given to Lord Byron's College, enclosing a petition on the part of the College, which he desired Mr. De la Pryme to present in the proper quarter without delay. One suggestion had been made that the statue might be placed in the Fitzwilliam Museum; but Dr. Whewell pointed out that it would be several years before it could be received there, as the building was not nearly finished, and the interior work had not been begun.

The subscribers soon met and passed a vote presenting the statue to Trinity College. The poet is represented in a sitting posture, in modern costume. Baron Thorwaldsen did the work at Rome, in 1831. In the life of the artist is a short description of the statue. Byron holds in one hand his poem *Childe Harold*, in the other, a pen. On one side of the ruins of some Greek columns is Athene with the owl; on the other Apollo's lyre and a gryphon. "The bas-relief represents the Genius of Poetry, who tunes his lyre, and rests his foot upon the prow of a skiff."

**729.—British Archæological Association.**—Peterborough was selected this year for the meeting of the annual Congress of the British Archæological Association. A very numerous local Committee was appointed; but the arrangements were practically left to a Sub-committee of five, with the indefatigable local Secretaries, Mr. Dack and Mr. Bodger. A large number of visitors appeared at the commencement of the proceedings in the afternoon of Thursday, 14 July, when the Dean of Peterborough addressed them upon the history and architecture of the Cathedral, and afterwards shewed them over the building.

Excursions were organized for each day, and papers were read each evening. The Bishop of Peterborough was President, and gave his opening address on Thursday evening. Many of the places visited were not within the borders of the Fen-



land, and many of the papers had no immediate connection with the district with which *Fenland Notes and Queries* is specially concerned.

The Fenland supplied the following objects of interest. Peterborough Cathedral, the skeleton of the Tithe Barn, S. John Baptist's Church, which was described by Mr. H. M. Townsend; the Churches, Browne's Hospital, &c., at Stamford, described by Mr. Traylen; Burghley House, where an admirable paper was read by Mr. J. A. Gotch, F.S.A.; Spalding Church and Ayscoughfee Hall, and the valuable collection of manuscripts and rare books belonging to the Gentlemen's Society there, described by Dr. Perry, President of the Society; Woodcroft Manor-house, which was besieged in the 17th century, when Dr. Hudson (the original of Dr. Rochcliffe in "Woodstock") was slain; Helpston Church and Cross of 14th century date; Maxey Church, with its fine Norman work, roodloft piscina, groined sacristy, and many other features of interest, described by the Vicar; Northborough Church and Manor House; Peakirk Church and Hermitage; and Glinton Church.

The evening papers that dealt with Fenland subjects, many of which will be printed in the Journal of the Association, were these:—"Roman Peterborough," by Dr. Walker, in which he maintained that most of the Roman remains found of late years in Peterborough were found in what was the site of the *Castra Æstiva* of the famous *Durobrivæ*, now Castor; another paper, also by Dr. Walker, on "Saxon Remains found in or near the City"; "The Peterborough Gentlemen's Society and its connexion with Spalding," by Mr. Daak; "Crowland and the Legend of S. Guthlac," by Miss Bradley; "Maxey Church and Parish," by the Rev. W. D. Sweeting; "Northborough in connexion with Cromwell and the Claypoles," by the Rev. H. J. D. Astley, Hon. Secretary; "Bury Church and Biggin House," by Mr. Poulter; "The History of Ramsey Abbey, illustrated by MSS. in the British Museum," by Dr. W. de

Gray Birch, F.S.A.; and "The Commercial Importance of Peterborough in Præ-Roman Times," by Dr. Phene, F.S.A.

The visitors professed themselves thoroughly pleased with the places to which they were taken. The weather was remarkably favourable. The words used by Mr. Fry, in seconding a vote of thanks at the conclusion of the Congress, to the Dean, the Mayor, and the Executive Committee, proposed by the Rev. H. J. D. Astley, expressed the very general feeling of all present. He had been to fifteen Congress outings, "but he could testify that he had never had such a splendid time, and had never before received such courtesy, kindness, and consideration as had come from all with whom they had come in contact."

**780.—Proclamation in Peterborough of the Peace of 1713.**—The Treaty of Europe, signed 8 April, 1713, ended the War of the Spanish Succession. England had subsidized Europe from side to side, and suffered much from the waste of life and suspension of trade. This account of the Proclamation of the Peace is taken from *The Post Boy*, of 2 June, 1713. It seems to be a contribution by Dean Kennett.

"Sir,

"On Thursday, the 21<sup>st</sup> May, the Peace was proclaimed in the City of Peterborough where the R<sup>t</sup> Hon. John Earl of Exeter, Custos Rotulorum of the Soak and Liberty was attended by several hundreds of the gentry and clergy of the counties of Northton. Rutland Lincoln and the Isle of Ely. His Lordship was met at some distance from Peterborough by the honest clergy and all the gentlemen and tradesmen of the city as follows, viz.:

"Twelve halberdeers with cockaded hats and their halberts hung with white ribbons ;

"Three Constables with their staffs and white ribbons also ; the High Constable of the Soak and Liberty with a white staff adorned the same way ;

"Afterwards there were carried two very fine satin flaggs, with silver and gold lace, before the High-bailiff, who having his white wand capped with ribbons, his hat cockaded, and a leaf of laurel gilt with a crown and A. R. under, immediately preceded his lordship with the same tokens of loyalty in his hat who was followed in great order by a vast concourse of clergy and gentry, the latter of which having their hats cockaded and laurel'd in conformity to his lordship followed by thousands of foot under arms in martial order, drums beating, colours flying and variety of all sorts of music attending the same. And lastly there was a famous procession of wool-combers, the principal manufacture of the place ; viz. ; the Masters on horseback, handsomly clad and adorned with a pretty variety of colourd wool, hats cockaded, and laurel leaves in them, led up a very great number of journeymen in their holland shirts and white wands tufted, with sashes and scarves of comb'd wooll. The person representing Bishop Blaze the founder of the manufacture was distinguished from all the rest being preceded by two of the function carrying a garland ; others with streamers and the next with the ensignes of the trade ; his cap was made of wool, in imitation of a mitre, his habit of the same, trailing and supported by two youths in their holland shirts. The Cavalcade was so very particular that they paraded the town several times, to the great satisfaction of all spectators. His lordship having rode through all the streets of the City (which was everywhere set out with flags, streamers and rich plate-garlands,) attended in the above mentioned order came at last to the Market Place where he heard the Peace proclaimed with the utmost expressions and acclamations of joy. After which his Lordship went to the Talbot where he gave an invitation and a noble entertainment to the neighbouring clergy and gentry as well as the citizens and clergy of Peterburgh. And to make the joy general his Lordship gave to the wool-combers some guineas, also several hogsheads of ale to the inferior people,

and a good largess to the poor and prisoners to drink prosperity to the Church, long life to her Majesty and the succession in the house of *Hanover*. The evening concluded with ringing of Bells, firing of canons and small arms and such prodigious illuminations as were never seen before in Peterborough."

L. GACHES.

**731.—Woolcombers in Peterborough.**—The foregoing article is particularly welcome, as it proves the existence of an important trade at Peterborough about two centuries ago. In the Feoffees' Accounts for 1636 (Art. 690) occurs the name "Combares gate" as the name of a street: and it was suggested that our present Cumbergate is a corruption of this, and that it was the street in which the Woolcombers carried on most of the trade. The description of their procession at the Proclamation of Peace in 1713 shews how considerable a business they transacted, and proves that they were essentially men to be had in honour, and entitled to a place of dignity on such a national occasion. No other body of men seems to have been recognised in a corporate capacity in the procession.

It was mentioned (p. 22) that Dean Duport had an epigram upon the Woolcombers. It was published in 1676. The men had probably improved since the Dean wrote. He does not seem to have had a very high opinion of them, or of the profits of their trade. None of them would ever win the golden fleece. They were as woolly as the sheep that gave them wool to comb. The Dean talks about goats' wool, wool-gatherers, wolves in sheep's clothing, and hints that their occupation must be a very dry one:—

Comptores compotores nempe esse juvabit  
Interdum, ne sint vellera sicca nimis.

ED.

**732.—Humphrey Tindall, D.D., Dean of Ely.**—Doctor Humphrey Tindall was appointed Vicar of Soham in 1577 and Dean of Ely in 1591. He held both preferments till his death in 1614. A short account of him was given in the *Soham*

*Parochial Magazine* for April, 1887, which concludes with the sentence: "He was offered the kingdom of Bohemia."

In a later number of the same magazine, that for August, 1893, this astonishing statement is investigated, and some important facts are given that throw considerable light upon it.

In Dr. Fuller's *History of the University of Cambridge* (published in 1655), the account of Queens' College contains the following paragraph:—

"Among the later Masters of this College, Dr. Humphrey Tindall, Dean of Ely, must not be forgotten, of whom there passeth an important tradition: That in the reign of Q. Elizabeth he was proffered by a Protestant party in Bohemia to be made King thereof, which he refused, alleging that he had rather be Q. Elizabeth's subject than a foreign Prince. I know full well that crown is elective. I know also that for some hundreds of years it has been fixed to the German empire. However, because *No smoak without fire*, or heat at least, there is something in it, more than appears to every eye. True it is that he was son to Sir Thos. Tyndall of Hockwold in Norfolk, and how Bohemian blood came into his veins I know not. Sure I am, he gave the arms of Bohemia, viz., Mars, a lion with a forked tail, Luna, crowned Sol, with a plume of ostrich feathers for a crest."

Students in heraldry will note that this coat of arms is described by the method of blazonry used for the arms of sovereign princes, in which *Sol* stands for *or*, *Luna* for *argent*, and *Mars* for *gules*.

In order to trace the "Bohemian blood in his veins" we must go back to the 14th century. Our English histories have told us about John, the blind king of Bohemia, who fell at the battle of Crecy in 1346, whose crest of ostrich feathers was assumed by the Black Prince and has ever since been borne by the Princes of Wales. The son of that King John seems to have been called Wenceslaus the 7th as King of Bohemia, but he was elected Emperor in 1347 and is known to history

as the Emperor Charles the Fourth. His sister was married to Ziemovitus of Glogau and had a daughter named Margaret. The Emperor's own daughter, usually called Anne of Bohemia, was married to King Richard II. of England, 14 Jan., 1382. When she came to England, she brought with her as one of her companions her cousin Margaret. And a young gentleman from Norfolk, named Sir Simon Felbrigg, came to the Court to render service to the King, and fell in love with the fair Margaret, and wooed and won her; and so the Bohemian lady became the wife of a Norfolk squire. They had a daughter named Alana, who, early in the reign of Henry VI., married Sir William Tyndale, of Tansover and Dean in Northamptonshire. From them the line of descent is traced to Dean Humphrey Tindall as follows:—

1. Thomas Tindale, Esq., son of the aforesaid Sir William Tyndale and of Alana, daughter and heiress of Sir Simon Felbrigg, married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir W. Yelverton.

2. His son, Sir William Tyndall, Knight of the Bath, married Mary, daughter and heiress of Osbert Mundeford, Esq., of Hockwold.

3. His son, Sir John Tyndale, Knight of the Bath, married Amphelicia, daughter of Sir Humphrey Conynsby.

4. His son, Sir Thomas Tindale, married (i) Ann, daughter of W. Paston, Esq., by whom he had a son William, the ancestor of the Tindales of Hockwold and Islington in Norfolk. (ii) Winifred, daughter of T. Cauze, Esq., Gentleman, of Norwich. She had been married twice before. Their eldest son was Sir J. Tindale of Much Maplestead in Essex.

5. Humphrey Tindale, Dean of Ely, and Vicar of Soham, was the younger son of Sir Thomas Tindale [No. 4] by his second wife Winifred.

The following is from Blomefield's *Norfolk*, i., 180:—

“The manor of Scales in Hockwold in Norfolk descended to William Tindall [No. 2 above] who was knighted at the

creation of Arthur Prince of Wales, and declared heir to the kingdom of Bohemia in right of Margaret his great-grand-mother, daughter of the Duke of Theise and niece to the King of Bohemia, wife of Sir Simon Felbrigg, whose daughter and heiress Alana was married to Sir William Tindall of Dean in Northants and Redenhall in Norfolk, grandfather of the afore-said Sir William Tindall of Hockwold, who kept his first court here with Mary his wife, in 6 Edward IV."

It will be seen that Dean Tindall's connection with the Royal Family of Bohemia was very remote, and it is hardly likely that he was ever seriously proposed as a candidate for the Crown. It is remarkable that he was elected Fellow of Pembroke when he was only 18 years old; and became Vicar of Soham at the age of 27 or 28.

The foregoing particulars were kindly supplied by the Rev. J. H. Crosby, of Ely. Perhaps he can tell us how it was that Dr. Tindall, who was not a graduate of the University of Cambridge, became President of Queens' College; and also how it was that he obtained a fellowship at Pembroke. Dr. Tindall had also been Chancellor of Lichfield Cathedral.

Willis gives the following inscription to his memory in Ely Cathedral:

"Umfridus Tindall, S. T. P. nobili Norfolciensium Tyndal-lorum Familiâ oriundus, Decanus quartus Ecclesiæ, obiit 12 Octob. Anno Salutis 1614,\* Ætatis suæ 65.

"At the Bottom of his Feet; Usque quo, Domine, usque quo.

"The Body of the worthy and Reverend Prelate Umphrey Tindall, D.D., the fourth Dean of the Church, and Master of Queen's† College, Cambridge, doth here expect the coming of our Saviour:

"In Presence, Government, good Actions, and in Birth,  
Grave, wise, courageous, noble, was this Earth;  
The Poor, the Church, the College, say here lies  
A Friend, a Dean, a Master, true, good, wise."

\* In Willis this is printed 1650: but this is a mere misprint.

† So printed: it should be Queens'.

Dr. Tindall was appointed Vicar of Soham, as stated above, in 1577; he was made President (or Master, as the Head seems then to have been called,) of Queens' College in 1579; and became Dean of Ely in 1591. He held all three preferments till his death. The use of the word "Prelate" in the epitaph is curious, as applied to one who was not a Bishop.

In Kent's *The Banner Display'd*, an abridgement of Guillim, 1726, appears the genealogical information given in Blomefield's *Norfolk*, quoted above: but he gives the arms of the family as Argent, a fess gules, between three garbs sable.

Rattlesden.

J. R. OLORENSHAW.

**733.—Burrell against Vermuyden.**—Besides the local opposition to drainage schemes, very numerous examples of which have been given in our pages, pamphlets were issued denouncing Vermuyden, his misrepresentations, his system, his methods, and his numerous failures. One of these pamphlets, by Andrew Burrell, Gent., has been mentioned in Art. 564 (Vol. II., p. 160). It professes to declare "how the said Sir Cornelius hath abused the King's Majesty, and many of his loving subjects." The following may be taken as the specific charges brought against Vermuyden.

- (1) Making weak banks.
- (2) Making hollow and counterfeit banks of light mow, hassocks, and sedge, "skimming and destroying three times so much ground as would have performed the service, if he had taken the best of the soyle."
- (3) Making sluices of rotten timber.
- (4) Mis-spending the King's treasure.
- (5) Undervaluing the work of the late Earl of Bedford and his fellow adventurers, and hindering their works.
- (6) Taking lands illegally without satisfaction.
- (7) Exposing to wilful and unnecessary hazard lands, cattle, corn, &c.

Much evidence is adduced which is supposed to demonstrate the truth of the above complaints.

H.R.S.



**734.—William Amos.**—Where can I obtain any particulars of the career of William Amos, of Brothertoft, who wrote some books on Agriculture about a hundred years ago? One of his books was on the Theory and Practice of Drill Husbandry; another was entitled "Minutes of Agriculture and Planting."

G. TALBOT.

**735.—Fen Provincialisms (720).—**

**SPURRINGS.**—Banns of marriage. "So you have gone in for the spurs. How do they fit?" "We must wet the spurs." Companions often make such remarks.

**STADDLE, STEDDLE.**—A raised mound on which to put a stack; a bed, or foundation. Also the mark remaining after a haycock or stook (or stouk) of corn has been removed.

**STAGG.**—A coarse-grown ox when castration has been delayed is said to be staggy. A male turkey in its second year. A gander. Icel. *steggr*, *steggi*. A cock bird. See *Lincolnshire and Danes*, 365.

**STALL.**—To tire, surfeit, satiate.

**STANCH.**—A stop for water in rivers and canals, substantially built with masonry, but not having the double set of gates of the ordinary locks. Used on the outskirts of the Fens, as, Woodston Stanch, Orton Stanch.

**STARNEL.**—The starling. *Sturnus guttatus*.

**STABVED.**—Chilled with cold and hunger.

**STATTIS.**—Corruption of statute. A fair held by statute for hiring servants. They were established in the reign of Edward III., 1351. (*History of Boston*.) At the *stattis* the would-be waggoner was distinguished by a piece of whipcord or coloured tape, of the kind such as is used for binding horses' tails: shepherds were known by a lock of wool in the button-hole or hatband. The register offices have now almost superseded the old statutes. But at Wisbech a statute is held in September, at which considerable business is done in hiring servants. In the North they are called mops.

**STAVERS.**—The staves or rounds of a ladder. Dan. staver, a stake.

**STEEL, STELE.**—The handle of a rake or hoe. Hence, a handle, generally.

**STEER.**—Steep. "The ladder is too steer, I can't get up."

**STERT.**—Start. The old English *er* was very generally pronounced *ar*. The pronunciation survives in very many words, such as clerk, sergeant, stern, Derby, Hertford, Bertie, Berkshire, Berkeley, Jervis; and is very often heard in vermin, sermon, serpent, &c.

**STETCH, STELOH.**—A land, that is, as much land as lies between one furrow and another in ploughing, when half the land is ridged up, or gathered, and the balk split, so that the furrow is mid-way between two ridges. The form, stelch, is used by thatchers, being the width on which the yelms of straw are laid and secured with one removal of the ladder.

**STEW.**—A dust, bustle, excitement. A form of stive.

**STIDDY, STITHY.**—The blacksmith's anvil: so called from its firmness. Swed. In *Hamlet* is:—

His imaginations are as foul as the Vulcan's stithy.

**STIFF.**—Stout, firm, of stumpy growth. Compact applied to men or animals as being stiff built, stiff made. Also proud, haughty.

**STIFLER.**—One very busy and active in any commotion, as it were raising a dust. A leader or manager: "She was head stifler on the occasion."

**STINGY.**—Besides the ordinary use of this word, penurious, mean, it is used in the Fens as applied to the air, meaning keen, sharp, penetrating.

**STINE.**—A sty, small inflammation in or under the eyelashes. The infallible cure was to pull out an eyelash and rub it with a gold wedding ring.

**STINT.**—(1) A limit, an apportioned allotment of work. (2) Applied to arrested growth, (allied to stunt, A.S. stunter,) an animal is said to have been stinted or stunted when

young. (3) A small dusky bird, white beneath, something like a snipe but smaller. Sometimes called a parre; formerly very common in the Nene.

STIVER.—“I haven’t a stiver left.” A small Dutch coin. As still used in the Fens the expression seems to be a reminiscence of the Dutch settlers.

STIVING.—Walking quickly, bustling along. Stive, dust.

STOCKS.—Though not strictly within the subject of provincialisms I may put on record a curious fact connected with the Thorney stocks, namely, that they were portable, moved out when required to a spot near the bridge. The last occupant I recollect was one Thomas Gill, an old Irish labourer, for being drunk and disorderly. He was with my family for more than fifty years.

STODGED.—Well filled.

STONE.—Thoroughly, quite; as stone deaf, stone blind.

STOOK, STOUK.—A shock of corn. It was the practice for tithing purposes to make every stook the same size, containing ten sheaves. Since tithes have been commuted less care as to size is observed.

STOOL.—To ramify. An expression used in speaking of the number of shoots from a single grain of corn. “The wheat was thin but it is stooling well.” When willows are cut low the top from which young shoots issue is called the stool.

STOOP, STOWP.—A post. A wooden mill erected on posts is called a stowp-mill.

STRAIGHT.—Fair and honest in business. A roadway made on an incline beside a river bank so that loaded waggons can pass over without weakening the bank, is known as a straight or slipway.

STRANGE.—Very exceedingly. “He wor a strange nice man, very good to the poor.”

STRAPPING.—Tall, fine, big. Mostly applied to women. “She wor a strapping fine girl. He mounted a chair to give her a kiss.”

**STRAPPINGS, STROPPINGS.**—The last milk drawn from a cow in milking. This is considered richer than what is drawn first.

**STRECKLE, STRICKLE.**—A roller or piece of wood with which superfluous grain is struck off in measuring. Also a piece of wood covered with emery powder for sharpening scythes; called also a rapstick.

**STRIKE.**—A bushel.

**STRIDE.**—To stride, step a yard.

**STRUNT.**—The rump of a fowl. Burns uses strunt as a verb, to strut.

**STUD AND MUD.**—A building of which the walls are constructed of stakes, wattles, and mud. In many old houses the partitions were thus made, very little framing, and that chiefly refuse timber, being used. In fence walls road scrapings were mixed with chopped up straw. Posts were put in occasionally for strength, finished by a covering of thatch or boards. Many are to be seen at Whittlesey. In Lincolnshire the expression is Stower and Daub.

**STUFF.**—Opium and preparations of opium are euphemistically known as stuff. Holbeach and Wisbech did an immense trade in stuff. I have heard from one retailer that he sold over the counter 14 lbs. of opium in a week, and sometimes more.

**STUMP.**—(1) Boston Stump is the local name for the tower of Boston Church. (2) Stumps are often used for legs: "Stir your stumps."

**STUNT.**—Steep, sullen, obstinate, blunt, short in manner. Of a piece of wood broken off abruptly, it is said it would not have broken off so stunt had it been sound, it had lost its nature. Of a stubborn, short-tempered fellow it has been said: "He's as stunt as a burnt wong, there is no turning him."

**STURDY.**—A disease in sheep. Water on the brain containing embryo larva of tapeworm.

**STUTTLES.**—The stickleback ; a small fish with many names, mostly A.S. They multiply very quickly, and have been said at times to have almost choked the Ouse and Welland on their way to the sea. There they are soon destroyed by the salt water. Some idea of their occasional abundance may be gathered from the fact that farmers carted them away for manure : and that a man employed to collect them at the very moderate price of a halfpenny a bushel earned four shillings in a day. See Wells' *Bedford Level*, I., 13.

**STYRK.**—A young steer or heifer under two years old. A.S.

**SUCKLING.**—A common kind of clover.

**SUN.**—Of a man slightly inebriated it is said, "Oh ! he has been in the sun to-day."

**SUP.**—From the ordinary use, to drink by little and little, this word has come to be metaphorically used, especially in the expression "sup sorrow." A hag was heard to say of her husband, "I'll make him sup sorrow by the ladle full before I've done with him."

Wryde.

S. EGAR.

**736.—Cambridge Friars in 1533 (712).**—Referring to your editorial note on page 72, I draw your attention to the following extract from Tanner's *Notitia Monastica* :—

**CAMBRIDGE.** 29. Friars de Sacco. In the same street [*viz.* of Trumpington] on ground since annexed to Peter-house, stood the church and house of Friars De penitentia Jesu Christi, or De sacco, who were here in A.D. 1258, and owed their settlement to the benefactions of Ric. Hekingham and others, but are said to be of the foundation of K. Henry 3. They continued till the suppression of this order at the Council of Lyons, A.D. 1307.

The date of the will which you give being 1533, the absence of reference to those Friars is clearly explained.

Tanner also gives particulars of "Bethlemite Friars" and "Fratres S. Mariæ" at Cambridge.

S. Peter's College, Peterborough.

W. FICKLING.

**737.—Lincolnshire Bagpipes.**—In Shakspeare's play of King Henry IV., Part I., Act I., Scene 2, we read :—

*Falstaff.* . . . . I am as melancholy as a gib cat, or a lagged bear.

*Prince Henry.* Or an old lion; or a lover's lute.

*Falstaff.* Yea, or the drone of a Lincolnshire bagpipe.

Various explanations have been given of the meaning of the last line : (1) it is "used metaphorically for the croak of the frog in the marshes;" (2) the bittern, once common in the fens, was called a bagpipe: (3) there was actually a sort of bagpipe peculiar to the county. In support of (1) we have the opinion of the commentator Stevens: in favour of (2) there is some evidence that the melancholy boom of the bittern was locally known as the bagpipe: while sundry quotations from Drayton, and from Armin, certainly imply the existence of an instrument of music used in Lincolnshire, and so support the view (3) that the words may be taken literally. The quotation from Armin's *A Nest of Ninnies*, is given in Knight's *Pictorial Edition*. While speaking of the sports and festivities at Christmas, the author says :—

Amongst all the pleasures provided, a noyse of minstrells and a *Lincolnshire bagpipe* was preferred: the minstrells for the great chamber, the bagpipe for the hall; the minstrells to serve up the Knight's meate, and the bagpipe for the common dancing.

This, one would think, is conclusive. In this passage there is clearly no metaphorical use of the expression. Neither frogs nor bitterns could help the dancing. Can any correspondent tell us something about the instrument in question? Was it the ordinary bagpipe of the north country? or was there a special bagpipe used in Lincolnshire, having a distinctive dismal tone? Has any one ever seen one? ED.

**738.—Lincolnshire Patriarchs.**—In *The Stamford Mercury* for 28 June, 1816, is an account under this heading of two very vigorous centenarians, which is worth preserving.

At Whaplode Drove feast, three days in last week, Mr. John Goodyer, aged 104 years, danced a hornpipe, sung a song, and played at the game of four corners, in high glee.—Of nearly as remarkable vigour and longevity is Susanna Langley, wife of Edw. Langley, of Bolingbroke, who has for upwards of 70 years regularly attended Spilsby market; and it is supposed, that in the course of that time she has walked in her peregrinations to and from Spilsby, upwards of 30,120 miles; and she still attends the market with the greatest activity, and enjoys her market cheer.

**739.—The Hack Family of Whittlesey and Peterborough.**—The Hacke family is of Dutch origin. The name occurs in the Dutch congregation of the City of London. Peter Hacke, of the faculty of makers of bayes and seys, migrated to Sandwich when the Dutch community was established in that town by Queen Elizabeth's charter in 1561; and there were Hacks in a similar community at Norwich founded in 1568. Probably the Hacks of Whittlesey came from Norwich, for the name does not occur among the settlers in Hatfield Chase.

Thomas Hacke was a benefactor to the poor of Peterborough.

Certain orders and decrees made on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June, 1633, by the Rev<sup>d</sup> father in God William, Lo: Bp. of Bath and Wells, John Towers, dean of the Cath: Church of Peterborough, John Pocklington, D.D., Francis Quarles, esquire, Robert Sumner, clerke, John Turner, gent., and Jeremy Reynolde, gent: By virtue of a commission to them and others directed under the great seal of England according to the statute of Queen Elizabeth to redress the misimployment of lands goods and stocks of money given to charitable uses, declared that "Thomas Hacke, esquire deceased grandfather to William Hacke, now of Peterborough, esquire, did give unto the said Towne a certen freehold in Bungate with an acre of land in Boone field now or late in the occupation of one Richard Speechley to thentent to buy coales for the poore of the said Towne with the rent of the same as appearith by an inquisition taken at the said cittie of Peterburghe the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of our late lord King James of England: and that William Hacke esquire holdeth parte of the Towne lands as tenante himself being one of the feoffees at the rent of iiij<sup>li</sup> xv<sup>s</sup> per ann. and that he hath three years rent in his hands as feoffee which comes to eleven pounds and five shillings."

An entry in the parish registers of S. John Baptist, Peterborough, indicates that Thomas Hacke died in March, 1589,\*

\* 1589. March. "Thomas Hake gentilman was sumptuously brought with mourners into the parish church of Peterburgh and from thence conveyed to Wittlesey and there buried the 1j day." There are several memorials of this family in the church of S. Mary's at Whittlesey.

so it was high time that the land he intended for the endowment of this dole should be assured to the Town. The Commissioners for Pious Uses directed William Hacke to make a deed of feoffment to the feoffees of the Town charities: and in obedience to such order William Hacke, in pursuance of the will of his grandfather, on 10 Sept., 1633, conveyed to John Towers, D.D., John Pocklington, D.D., Robert Sumner, clerk, prebendaries, Paul Pancke, clerk, and Henry Dixon, capitall schoolmaster of the Free school of the said city; and to Humphrey Orme, John Bucknell, esqrs., Charles Bringhurst, Miles Forrest, Thos. Warner, gents., Will. Leafield, of Longthorpe, John Turner, of Eyebury, and Christopher Bird, chandler, a messuage and tenement in Bungate in the City in the occupation of Richard Speechley and one acre of land in Boonfield near the City in trust to give the profits to the poor and such of the needfullest people in the city of Peterborough by the minister churchwardens and overseers of the poor of the said city to buy them coals with; and he appointed Richard Alfield, gent., and Robert Caryer, mercer, his attorneys to deliver the premises.

"Hake" may be the orthoepy of the name; so Mr. William spelt it. He joined the royalist party and his fortune suffered much.† He is in list of recusants of 1645, and in that year sent his petition‡ to the Committee for Compounding with Delinquents.

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Committee for Composicons att Goldsmiths Hall.

The humble Peticon of William Hake of Peterborough gent.  
humbly sheweth

That yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner beinge carried unto the enemyes quarters & there resided untill hee could purchase his freedome & by reason thereof yo<sup>r</sup> petitioners estate became sequestred hee not havinge been att any tyme in actual service or done other things against the Parliament.

Wherefore yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner humbly prayeth that you would be pleased to admitt him to his Composicion.

And yo<sup>r</sup> Petn<sup>r</sup> shall pray &c.

William Hake.

† W. H. was a Commissioner of Sewers in 1619. The following entry in S. John Baptist register relates to the death of his wife:—1615. Nov<sup>r</sup>. Mistres Luce Hacke ye Wyf of Mr William Hacke a gentlewoman of good preence, yet not quoye; of a sharpe and quicke apprehension, yet no scoffer; personable & full of favour, yet most chaste; dyed in chylbed the 24<sup>th</sup> of this present and was buried at Whyttlessey the 26<sup>th</sup> daye, whose death was much lamented in Peterb.

‡ S. F. Dom. Interreg, G. 89.



A true Particular of the estate of Mr William Hake of Peterborough.

Imprimis, one lease of the manner of Eae with Eastwood and the  
 flarme Single-sholt to be demised heretofore upon the racke  
 rent twenty four years in being or thereabouts better the rent  
 per ann. ....115<sup>s</sup>

Item one flarme by coppie of Courte Roole there to be demised  
 ut supra per ann. .... 10<sup>s</sup>

Item three cottages by coppie of Court Roole..... 6 10

Item two willow hoults by coppie of Court Roole..... 4

Item in Peterborough my dwelling house in freehold  
 And coppie hould land and houses..... 33<sup>s</sup>

Item Newarke in the parish of Peterburrrough one freehold flarme  
 p. ann. .... 16 0 0

Item in Newarke in the parish of Peterburrrough one flarme by  
 copie of Court Roole ..... 8 0 0

In personall estate..... 50<sup>s</sup> 0 0

But in regard to the hardnes of the times & taxes to the  
 Parliament it will not give above half the value.

Besides yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner oweth which standeth engaged .....860 0 0

Besides goods & Stocke taken from yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> to the use of the  
 state .....500 0 0

By reason of which yo<sup>r</sup> Petitioner hath little or noe peall estate  
 but some household stuff wch is very meane. Besides the  
 flarme house at Single-sholt was burnt downe by the King's  
 fforces then at Crowland with dovehouses & outhouses to  
 the value of.....100 0 0

This is a true particular of all my estate reall & personal I desire  
 to compound. William Hake.

The Committee fixed Mr. Hacke's fine at £250. His name  
 does not occur again in the town affairs. He probably died  
 before the Restoration, for he would have come to the front  
 again then. The date of his burial might be verified from the  
 register of S. Mary's, Whittlesey, where his ancestors were  
 interred. The entries of burials at Peterborough from 1650  
 to 1658 have been torn from the parish registers of S. John  
 Baptist.

The arms of Hake of Whittlesey were, Azure, three hake  
 fish haurient, Or. L. GACHES.

From a remarkable sundial in Priestgate it would seem that  
 William Hake did survive till the Restoration: but he was at  
 that time probably too old or infirm to take part in public  
 matters.

The following description of this sundial is from the first  
 edition (1872) of Mrs. Alfred Gatty's *The Book of Sundials*,  
 p. 75:—

"O BEATA SOLITUDO, O SOLA BEATITUDO;  
MIHI OPIDUM CARCER EST,  
ET SOLITUDO  
PARADISUS.

W † H

DEUS NOBISCUM  
ET CORONA MANUUM OPUS NOSTRUM.

1668

VIVAT CAROLUS SECUNDUS.

*"O blessed solitariness—O solitary blessedness: The town to me is a prison, and solitude my Paradise. O God, be with us, and crown the work of our hands. Long live Charles II.*

"The dial which is thus inscribed is circular, but has square ends below. The hours are marked round the lower half of the circle; and the lines of motto are above, and bend with the shape of the dial; the word "Paradisus" in the centre being straight, and from it the gnomon springs. It is formed of a single stone let into a plastered gable of a house fronting a garden in Priestgate, Peterborough, and belonging to Mr. G. Wyman. It was once held by a family named Hake, which may account for the initials W. H. There is a crown on the lower part of the dial face, which was gilt, but is now so much worn that only the general outline can be traced. The date and good wishes for the king are on the square portion below. The obliging correspondent who favoured us with this interesting inscription, suggests that a very pretty story might be manufactured from it—"Of a poor old cavalier broken down in fortune and health; perhaps the object of persecution; perhaps the last of his family left after the civil wars, retiring to spend his last hours in this secluded spot." Let us hope he may have known some bright hours in his loyalty, and perhaps joined in a glee with Roger Wildrake;—

'Bring the bowl which you boast,  
Fill it up to the brim;  
Tis to him we love most,  
And to all who love him.  
Brave gallants, stand up,  
And avaunt, ye base carles!  
Were there death in the cup,  
Here's a health to King Charles!'"

In the second edition, issued in 1888 by Miss H. K. F. Gatty and Miss E. Lloyd, an engraving of this sundial is given. Ed.

**740.—Threckingham.**—The name of this place is popularly supposed to be derived from the death of three Danish kings who were slain there in battle. In a book entitled *Sketches . . . . of New and Old Sleaford*, 1825, I read :—  
 “This place, which is situated in the hundred of Aveland, about eight miles south of Sleaford, was, previous to the year 870, called *Laundon*, at which time, on account of the burial of three Danish Kings or Chiefs, it was changed to *Trekingham*, and so by corruption to *Threckingham*.”

A long quotation from Ingulf shews that the idea was first started by him. Probably the inhabitants still maintain the truth of this etymology. But is it generally accepted by scholars? It seems far more likely that the place was a settlement of some tribe or family, the syllable *ing* being the familiar patronymic. In Domesday the name appears as *Trichingeham*; and we have later the form *Trikingham* and *Trekingham*. Would not this mean the home of the Trichings?

It is only right to mention that the derivation of the name from the three kings is also given in the *Chronicon Angliæ Petriburgense*. The author and date of the chronicle are not certainly known: but it was written after the time of Ingulf. Under the year 870 is this :—“*Dani vero pro cæde suorum exeunt magis efferati, summo mane sepelientes tres reges suos in villa, quæ antea Laundon vocabatur, nunc vero pro trium regum Danorum sepultura, Threkingham nuncupatur.*”

A local tradition, almost too absurd for mention, points out three stone coffins as those that contained the bones of the Danish kings. These are however, of fourteenth century workmanship.

Is the late Bishop Trollope's opinion on this "question known?  
M.M.D.

**741.—Armour found at Aldreth.**—Charles Kingsley in his *Hereward the Wake* speaks of the armour and arms found “at times unto this day” at Aldreth, on the scene of the two fights with William the Norman. Can any of the readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries* inform us on what authority Kingsley makes this assertion? Is it simply a paraphrase of a passage in Chap. xxi. of the *De Gestis Herwardi*, where we read that many of the Norman party perished in great numbers in the waters and in the swamp, “ex quibus isti usque in hodiernum diem multi adhuc de profundis illarum aquarum in armis putrefactis abstrahuntur”; or had he any further warrant for the statement?

It would be interesting also to know if any arms have actually been found on the spot: although living in the adjacent parish I have never yet been able to discover that any have been so found.

Witcham Vicarage, Ely.

J. G. CHESHIRE.

**742.—Church Tablet at Cowbit.**—The organ gallery at Cowbit is to the east of the south porch; and the space between it and the west tower is unoccupied, except for the vestry and font. This at least was the arrangement in 1877. In this ante-chapel, as it might almost be called, are two painted tablets; one (dated 1827) has the Creed and Lord's Prayer, and the other has the following:—

Upon the neglect of  
God's Service on the Sunday.  
Is not the Life more than Meat and the Body  
than Raiment.

There are a sort of men who deign to pray,  
When nothing worldly calls another way:  
This obstacle, I ween, they dare to raise,  
At times appointed for their Maker's praise.  
Dear reader shun, oh shun that thoughtless race,  
Who seek their God but in the second place.

ED.

**743.—James Hammond.**—Among Johnson's *Lives of the Poets* is a short account of James Hammond, a writer of elegiac poetry. His verses do not seem to have possessed much merit, and Dr. Johnson speaks of them in very hard terms. His "elegies have neither passion, nature, nor manners . . . He produces nothing but frigid pedantry. It would be hard to find in all his productions three stanzas that deserve to be remembered."

But there were some admirers of his poetry; and in an edition of his elegies, published after his death, a preface, by the Earl of Chesterfield, spoke strongly in their favour.

Are we entitled to reckon James Hammond among the natives of the Fens? I cannot find any statement as to his birthplace. He was second son of Anthony Hammond, Esq., of Somersham Place, co. Hunt., by his wife Jane, daughter of Sir Walter Clarges, Bart. He was educated at Westminster. He became equerry to Frederick, Prince of Wales; and was elected member for Truro in 1741. He was only in his 33<sup>rd</sup> year when he died, being born 22 May, 1710, and dying 2 June, 1742.

H.R.S.

**744.—Memorial Slab at Boston.**—On the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee an interesting memorial slab was brought into Boston Church and laid in the pavement at the west end of the north aisle, a small brass with an inscription recording the removal being placed near the head. The slab is of black marble, about 8 feet by 3 feet 6 in., and bears an incised figure of the deceased, the hands clasped in prayer, the feet resting on a dog; at the corners are quatrefoils containing emblems of the evangelists, and round the edge runs the inscription HIC IACET WISSELVVS DCS SMALENBVRGH CIVIS ET MERCATOR MONASTERIENSIS QVI OBIIT FERIA SEXTA POST NATIVITATEM BEATE MARIE VIRGINIS ANNO DOMINI MCCCXI, ANIMA EIVS REQUIESCAT IN PACE AMEN. "Dcs" stands for

"dictus," and the whole inscription may be translated "Here lies Wisselus, surnamed Smalenburgh, citizen and merchant of Münster, who died on the Friday after the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the year of our Lord 1340. May his soul rest in peace. Amen." The slab was originally in the Church of the Franciscan Friary, which was founded by the Tilney family prior to 1331, and stood near the southern end of the town, abutting on the wall and immediately north of the present Grammar School ; it was much frequented by the merchants of the Hanseatic League, who had a steelyard at Boston, and Münster (in Westphalia) was one of the cities comprised in the League. The friars looked upon the Hanse merchants as their second founders. The church is mentioned by Leland as containing some handsome monuments. At the dissolution of the friaries the site was granted by Henry VIII. to his brother-in-law, Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk ; on his death without male issue, it reverted to the King, who sold it in 1545 with other property to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, to whom he had just granted a charter of incorporation. In the eighteenth century they sold this and other valuable properties in the Borough to Mr. Fydell, one of their body, and he built on the land, when the slab above described was found but broken in four pieces. It was built into the wall of a cottage then erected in Spain Court, close to the site of the friary, which still belongs to Mrs. Caroline Frances Rowley, of Morcott Hall, Uppingham, the descendant and representative of Mr. Fydell. She has permitted the stone to be moved to Boston church. The family of de Spayne, whose mansion stood on the site now known as Spain Court, was a merchant family which flourished in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, but was presumably extinct in 1500 when its mansion had become parcel of the honour of Richmond, which was also sold by Henry VIII. to the Corporation of Boston in 1545, and by the Corporation in the eighteenth century to Mr. Fydell.

G. JEBB.

**745.—Orme Family (724).**—The members of this family in the 17th and 18th centuries were so numerous in Peterborough and the neighbourhood that it is almost impossible to trace an exact pedigree. In the following account of them the facts marked (*a*) have for authority the parish registers of S. John's church, Peterborough; those marked (*b*) the registers of the cathedral; those marked (*c*) a monumental inscription in the cathedral.

As mentioned in Art. 724 we first hear of Humphrey Orme in 1538 as acquiring property in West Deeping, co. Linc., about 10 miles from Peterborough. At Peterborough, 3 Jan., 1608, was buried (*a*) Thomas Oarmes, Gent., who may have been his son. He certainly had a son Humphrey (Knighted at Whitehall, 6 Nov., 1604), whose daughter Elizabeth Oarmes, daughter of Sir Humphrey Oarmes, was baptized (*a*) 3 Aug., 1608. He also had a son Humphrey (of whom hereafter); and a son George, who is mentioned in the will of his nephew Francis Orme as having been buried in the new building at the cathedral.

Humphrey (No. 3) was born in 1593 (he was aged 46 on 11 Jan., 1640). He married (1) Mary, only daughter of Humphrey Orme, of Compton Dondon, co. Som., who died 30 Aug., 1627 (*c*). Their children were Mary, baptized (*a*) 12 Oct., 1619; Humphrey (No. 4); William, baptized (*a*) 4 May, 1625; and Mary, baptized (*a*) 14 Jan., 1627, and buried (*a*) 26 Mar., 1628. Humphrey (No. 3) married (2) a lady whose name has not been found, but she was buried (*a*) 20 Apr., 1640, by whom he had two children, Robert, baptized (*a*) 10 Apr., 1638; and Judith, baptized (*a*) 14 Apr., 1640. Humphrey (No. 3) married (3) Elizabeth, widow of Bishop Dee, who was aged 35 on 11 Jan., 1640 (date of marriage license, Art. 724). There was also a son Francis, but by which wife is not known, who describes himself in his will (Cons. Court of Peterborough, R. 245, proved 18 Apr., 1674) as a gentleman, desiring to be buried in the new building near

his uncle George. He mentions his nephew, Charles Orme, Esq.; his niece Mary, wife of William Folkes; his niece Mrs. Elizabeth Orme; his cousin Jane, wife of Joseph Dillingham; and his cousin and godson Randall Bird. The seal attached to this will shews the arms borne by the family: a chevron between three estoiles of eight points. Francis Orme died (*c*) 25 Mar., 1674.

This Humphrey (No. 3) is always spoken of as a knight: but when he was knighted does not appear. He is not so described at his marriage in 1640. Nor is it known when he or his last wife died. In a description of the monument, erected by him in his lifetime and destroyed before his death, given in a tour made from Norwich in 1635, (printed, as far as relates to the county, in *Northamptonshire Notes and Queries*, II., 131,) it is said that on the monument were represented 7 sons and 8 daughters. He was only 42 years of age at this date. The account also speaks of the figures of Sir Henry his son and his lady and their children. Of this Sir Henry no other mention has been found.

Of Humphrey Orme (No. 4) some particulars have been given in a former paper (Art. 724). He was baptized (*a*) 12 Oct., 1620; died (*c*) 2 Mar., and was buried in the new building (*b*) 3 Mar., 1671. On his memorial stone he is said to have been "A supremo Angliæ senatu ad superiorem sanctorum conventum evocatus." In 1660 he was named as one of the Knights of the Royal Oak, and his estate was valued at £1000 a year. His wife Mary, widow of Robert Aprice, of Washingley, co. Hunts., was daughter (as appears by inscription on memorial stone of her son Charles) of Sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburrough. co. Norf. She was buried (*b*) 16 Apr., 1675, in the cathedral. In her will (proved 15 Apr., 1675, actually before she was buried, Cons. Court of Peterborough, R. 68) she mentions only of her children her son Charles, and him only as having agreed to pay her £800, which she devises, with the residue of her estate, to her well beloved friend Mr. William



Parker, who had married her daughter Elizabeth. The children of Humphrey (No. 4) and Mary, as far as has been discovered, were Mary, born about 1653, as she was said to be about 20 at her marriage at Woodston, 4 Aug., 1673, with William Folkes, of Peterborough, Gent.; Humphrey (No. 5); Elizabeth, who married (1) William Parker, Gent. (*c*), and (2) Charles Whynnyates, of Chelerstone, co. Derb., Gent., who died (*c*) 19 Mar., 1705, aged 46, and is buried in the new building: by her second husband she had (*c*) five children, John, who died an infant, Orme, Jane, Anna Maria, and Charles, and she was herself buried by her second husband, having died 30 Dec., 1726, aged 70; and Charles, aged 37 at his death (*c*) 25 Sep., 1691, he was buried (*b*) in the new building on 27 Sep. This Charles was Ensign in the Earl of Northampton's regiment, in 1685 he served as Lieutenant at Sedgemoor, in 1686 he was Captain, and in 1687 Major. His will (Cons. Court of Peterborough, Y. 168) was proved 26 Feb., 1692. In it he desires to be buried in the cathedral "in a place there called the New buildings, near unto my Father as conveniently may bee." He mentions leases held of the Dean and Chapter, including the manor of Boroughbury and Bellamy's farm. He names his son Charles, and six younger children, Mary, Elizabeth, Frances, Humphrey, John, and Judah. He lived in Priestgate Lane, and left his house to his wife Mary during her widowhood. The will is sealed with the coat of arms, as on the will of Francis Orme described above. Of the children here named I do not find elsewhere Elizabeth, Humphrey, or Judah. Charles is probably the person of that name buried (*b*) in cathedral 6 July, 1739, aged (*c*) 63, whose widow, Mary, died (*c*) 16 June, 1741, buried (*b*) in cathedral. Mary, daughter of Charles and Mary Orme, was baptized (*a*) 18 Sep., 1682, and died unmarried (*c*) 8 June, being "brought from London" and buried (*b*) in the new building, 14 June, 1720. Frances, another daughter, was baptized (*a*) 26 Feb., 1684, died (*c*) 26 Feb., and was buried (*b*) 28 Feb., 1720.

Of John there has only been found (*a*) the date of his baptism, 1 Mar., 1686. Besides these children surviving at the date of the father's death, there were a son (*b*) buried in the cathedral 12 Feb., 1677; another (*b*) buried there 22 Apr., 1681; another Mary baptized (*a*) 12 Apr., 1680; and Judith, baptized privately (*a*) and buried at cathedral 11 Apr., 1681.

Of Humphrey (No. 5) I have found no mention beyond what is given in Art. 724.

Other persons of the name occur, whose place in the pedigree has not been ascertained. In 1584 Humphrey Orme of Warmington, co. Northants., made his will directing his body to be buried at Warmington. He mentions his wife Cicely, his eldest son Robert, his third son Miles, and his fourth son Humphrey. The name of Miles Orme is on one of the bells at Warmington as churchwarden in 1604. In 1663 Martha Orme, widow, died at King's Cliffe; her children were Synolphus, Katherine, Francis, and Martha wife of Thomas Goodfellow. John Orme, of Lindon, co. Rutl., Yeoman, died in 1632. He was father of John, minister of Exton, Robert, Richard, Thomas, Richard the younger (both Richards alive at their father's death), Lucy, Joane, and Bridget; most of whom were married and had children.

I have notes also of Hester Ormes who died 14 Sep., 1744, aged 47; and of Walden Orme, second lieutenant in the Peterborough Volunteers in 1745, who died 26 Nov., 1774.

For many of the facts and dates here given I am indebted to Mr. L. Gaches. Corrections and additions will be very welcome.

ED.

#### 746.—Fen Provincialisms (735).—

SWALE.—(1) Shade, as opposed to sunshine. (2) To melt waste-fully, as of a candle placed in a draught. A.S., *swoelan*.

SWATHE, SWAITH.—The grass cut by a mower at one sweep of the scythe. Nares says "Swaith" is the proper way of spelling the word.

**SWANK.**—To knock off the heads of charlock or other weeds over the top of the corn crop. Heard at Pidley, co. Hunts.

**SWILL.**—(1) Hog-wash. "Broda wash swill or draffe for swine." (*Florio*, 68.) (2) To throw water over a pavement.

**SWINGEL.**—The part of a flail used to strike the corn. The flail was composed of two parts; the hand-staff and swingel being fastened together by swivels and leather thongs. There was an art in using this primitive threshing machine: the novice in his first attempt was fortunate if he did not strike his own head.

**SWIPES.**—Thin, weak, poor, beer; or other weak liquor. The small beer made for serving men years ago after private brewings (now unfortunately almost entirely discontinued) and a chemical compound substituted for a wholesome decoction of malt and hops.

**SWIVEL-EYED.**—One with a squint.

**SWIZZLE.**—A mixed drink. I have seen sticks known as swizzle sticks from the West Indies made from the branches of a tree peeled, which was said to impart a delicate flavour when the drink was thoroughly incorporated by competent hands.

**SWOUND.**—To swoon: very common.

**SYLED.**—Strained; used of milk when it comes from the cow to take off impurities. We also say of a heavy shower, "It syled down."

**TAB.**—The ear.

**TATCHET OR TACHET END.**—The detached end of waxed hempen thread with bristle attached: discarded by the tradesmen and used by cobblers for botching.

**TACK.**—Applied to unpalatable food. "This is hard tack. I don't like it."

**TAILINGS.**—Offals, refuse corn, not marketable.

**TAINTED.**—(1) Heated meat, from over driving before slaughter, is said to be tainted. (2) A dirty, offensive person, one unsafe to approach.

**TAN.**—To beat: a metaphor from the tanner's trade; as is clear from the full expression "I'll tan your hide."

**TAR MARL.**—Tarred string for thatching.

**TANTADLUM TART.**—A sort of tart in which the fruit is not covered by a crust, but fancifully tricked out with shreds of pastry in various patterns. Nares has the word.

**TATIE AND POINT.**—Said of a meal of potatoes, the meat being set aside for the workers, but pointed at by the younger members of the family.\* Heard at Crowland, 1848.

**TATER-TRAP.**—The mouth.—J. E. on his return after his first day at school was asked what he had learned, and replied that he now knew what a tater-trap was. "One of the boys was talking and the master told him to shut his tater-trap." This was in 1849, before the days of Board Schools and Certificated Teachers.

**TAUNTLING.**—Tossing the head, as of a restive horse.

**TAVING AND TEWING.**—Restless. The uneasy tossing of a sick person.

**TEAM.**—(1) To unload a waggon of corn. (2) To pour or empty from one vessel to another. (3) When it rains heavily it is said to team down, or rain teaming.

**TED.**—To pull hay together with a "hay-bob" into win-rows or small heaps.

**TEE-HEE.**—A titter, or laugh.

**TEMS, TEMSE.**—A fine sieve for dressing flour at home.

Dutch, Teme. French, Tamis. The dough tub and ♦ temse were part of the furniture of most farm kitchens. It has been suggested that in the familiar expression, used of an indolent person, "He'll never set the Thames on fire," the reference is to a temse, and not to the river. The explanation has not however been accepted by the best scholars. Temese is an old name for the Thames.

**TELL-CLAT.**—A tale-bearer.

\* This expression has been discussed in *Notes and Queries*, 6th S., i, ii. Carlyle uses it in his *Count Cagliostro*; and the Editor gives the same explanation as is given above. Correspondents had found the phrase in Cornwall, the Highlands, Cumberland, and Kerry. Other explanations are also given.—Ed.

**TENT.**—To tend, from attend, lest harm should result. Boys sent to scare birds from the corn, or to keep cattle from straying, are called tenter-boys.

**TERRIFY, TARRIFY.**—Also sometimes, terrifier. The lousewort, dwarf red rattle, *Pedicularis sylvatica*. A troublesome weed in stubble years ago. I have seen fields quite brown, nearly black, with the ripened seeds. It was usual to reap the wheat high, and to burn the stubble standing after harvest. This was a very effective way of getting rid of the pest. It is now rarely met with, owing to improved cultivation and drainage. The seeds cause great irritation by sticking to the clothes, to the wool of sheep, and to the skins of dogs. Goose-grass, or cleavers, locally known as hariff, *Galium aparine*, is occasionally called "terrify" on account of the trouble it causes the farmer. This name is also given by the authors of *The Fenland* (p. 299 note) to the treacle worm-seed, *Erysimum cheiranthoides*.

**TETCHY.**—Peevish: hard to please.

**Tew.**—(1) To tow, as a boat. (2) To toss, as hay with a fork; or pull about, as soil with a rake or harrow. (3) To vex or tease. "He was in such a tew." In Beaumont and Fletcher occurs the expression "Don't tew yourself."

**THACK.**—Thatch. Here, as in many other words, we have the hard sound to the ch.

**THACK AND MORTAR.**—"We went in thack and mortar," that is, in good earnest.

**THE MARE HAS FOALED.**—A phrase formerly in use among Fishermen to denote the overflowing of Whittlesey Mere, whereby great quantities of fish were sent into the drains, to the great advantage of the Fenmen.

**THEREAWAYS.**—Thereabouts. Thataway is also used meaning yonder, at some distance.

**THICK.**—Friendly. Thick end, the greater part. Thick of hearing, nearly deaf.

**THRONG.**—Busy.

**THRUFF.**—Through.

**THUMB-PIECE.**—A meal of bread and cheese eaten usually standing without plate.

**THUMB-SNACK.**—A simple way of fastening the door, the snack being lifted by a small lever.

**THUMPING.**—Very large. Common all over England ; but the Fenland toast “Thumping luck and fine children to ye” is perhaps local.

**TICK.**—Credit ; from ticket. Also common everywhere. But these verses (quoted from memory) from a board in the Cross Guns Inn are worth recording :—

The brewer doth crave his money to have,  
The distiller, I must have it quick ;  
Thus you will see how the case goes with me,  
And I pray you won't ask me for tick.

**TICKLE.**—Unsteady, not firm.

**TIED.**—Bound by a promise or agreement.

**TIFT.**—A tiff, a slight quarrel.

**TIPT.**—(1) The moveable covering to a carrier's cart. (2) The wedge-shaped article between the end of a barrel and the wall.

**TIMES AND OFTEN.**—Frequently.

**TIND.**—To kindle. So used in Sanderson's Sermons, 1689. Hence, tinder-box. Tinder was charred rag used with flint, steel, and sticks dipped in sulphur : before the invention of lucifer matches.

**TINE.**—(1) The prong of a fork. (2) A fine for the redemption of a pledge or forfeit.

**TING-TANG.**—A paltry, worthless, article.

**TING.**—To ting the bees when they swarm, to collect them together, a small unmelodious bell is rung. In our early days a warming-pan and cellar key were employed ; and the noise was said to be very efficacious in inducing the swarm to settle.

**TIFE.**—To tip up, as a cart. The tipe-stick is the wooden bar in front of the cart fastening the body to the shafts. Sometimes called the Punder.

**TIP-SLOUGH.**—A wooden shovel, usually home-made, with a tip or rim of iron on the cutting-edge. These are much in favour for sloughing up or casting mud out of the dikes.

**TIT.**—A small, light, horse. Wildmore Tits are mentioned in 1594.

**TITTLE.**—Tickle. "Don't tittle me so, I pray." (*Old song.*)

**TIT TAT TOE.**—The child's game commonly called "Noughts and Crosses."

**TO.**—(1) This. Today, to-night, are universal. We have also, to year, and other expressions. (2) Of. As "What do you think to it?" (3) For. As, "You'll have oatmeal porridge to breakfast."

**TOD.**—Dung; as, goose-tod, cow-tod.

**TOFT.**—The site of a house or cottage. When the greater part of the country was open field the expression "toft and croft" was well known in copyhold practice. We have the word preserved in village names, as, Langtoft and Fishtoft.

**TOKE.**—A simpleton. O.N. Toke.

**TOM-TIT.**—The wren is sometimes called erroneously by this name.

**TOMMY.**—Provisions, food.

**TOM-TOE.**—The great toe.

**TONY.**—A simpleton. Is this derived from Tony (\*i.e., Anthony) Lumpkin, in Goldsmith's play; or can an earlier instance of its use be found?

**TOOL.**—A spade. A shod-tool was one made locally.

**TOP-THONG.**—The strap that fastens the hames together at the top. That used at the lower part is the ches-thong.

**TOPS IT.**—"That tops it, surely." He out-Herods Herod.

**TOP UP.**—To finish. "They top up with pastry."

**TOSHES.**—Tusks.

**TOSH-NAILS.**—Nails put into a horse's shoe and allowed to remain rough, so as to prevent slipping in frosty weather. To tosh-nail a piece of wood, as a joist into a beam, is to drive a nail obliquely in the side.

\* See F. N. & Q., Vol. I., 91; Vol. II., 169.

**Toss-pot.**—A drunkard. Also old mugs of coarse brown ware are known as Toby Toss-pots.

**Tot.**—A small drinking cup holding about half a pint.

**TOTTERING.**—Apparently always used with the word "time."

Of a person recovering from illness it might be said, "He's had a tottering time of it," meaning dangerous. So of the weaker of two cocks in a poultry yard, always being driven about and harassed by the stronger, "He has but a tottering time of it."

**TOTTING.**—A mode of taking eels with a large bunch of worms threaded on worsted, and attached to a conical lead sinker weighing from one to two pounds. In this way quantities of eels were sometimes taken, especially in the tidal rivers. The fisher had a boat made fast mid-stream. From this he dropped his tot by means of a line at the end of a short rod. When a bite was felt the rod was raised quickly but steadily. The eels dropped into the end of the boat, and the tot was lowered again to the bottom of the stream.

Wryde.

S. EGAR.

**747.—Wedding Superstitions.**—A young man about to be married came recently to my house to arrange for the hour for the ceremony, and suggested half-past one. He was told this was an inconvenient time, as it would interfere with the meals of the family, and that 1.45 would be more suitable; and to this he agreed. But he sent a sister the next day to say he had a very great objection to be married at 1.45. Upon my enquiring if there were a train to be caught, or any domestic arrangements to be considered, I was told there was nothing of the kind; and upon my pressing for a reason I discovered that it was considered very unlucky to have the ceremony going on while the clock struck; and if the service did not begin till 1.45 it would last beyond two o'clock. I pointed out that there was no clock in the church, but, somewhat oddly, this



did not seem to affect the question. I have not been able to find any reference to this superstition in any book that deals with such subjects.

I also heard lately, from another source, that it was thought very unlucky for two sisters to be married at the same time. This is certainly not at all a general feeling.

It is considered here to be specially unlucky if the married pair, as they leave the church, walk "wrong-handed"; that is, if they do not retain the same relative position that they had during the service, the man to the woman's right.

The following lines on the day of the week suitable (or unsuitable) for weddings are new to me. I had them from a parishioner this year.

Monday for health,  
Tuesday for wealth,  
Wednesday the best day of all;  
Thursday for losses,  
Friday for crosses,  
Saturday no luck at all.

ED.

**748.—Peterborough Monastery: Custody of the Temporalities when Abbey vacant.**—The deed here copied was found among some waste paper in the office of Mr. Andrew Oliver, and by him given to the Bishop of Peterborough on the occasion of the late visit of the Congress of the British Archæological Association. The sum paid as a fee to the Exchequer for the custody of the temporalities of the monastery on the occasion of the death of an Abbot does not appear to be mentioned in Gunton. The amount claimed was considerable, forty pounds. It is very hard to state exactly the relative value of money at different periods, so as to be able to say what this sum would correspond to at the present day. But we should be almost certainly under the mark if we put it as equivalent to at least £300. The "tayle" spoken of was the tally, or Exchequer receipt: "prest" is defined in Bailey

as "a duty in money, to be paid by the Sheriff upon his account in the Exchequer, or for money left in his hands."

Henry the eyght by the grace of god Kyng of Engelond & of Fraunce defensor of the Feythe and lord of Ireland To the treasurer & chaumberleyens of our Eschequier gretyng Wheras the pryor and the Covent of the Monastery of Seynt peters of Burgh in our Countye of Northampton ought to Answer & Content unto us for the Custody of the vacacon of Temporaltyes of the same as often as yt shalbe voyd xl<sup>th</sup> as y<sup>t</sup> Appereth Afore the Barons in our Eschequier of Recorde And forasmoeche as the sayd pryor & Covent hathe Content & payed unto us in our Chaumber as ryght Requyreth We wyll and charge yow that ye att the Receypte of our Eschequier do levye A Taylle in manor & forme folowyng Northt de Abbate priore & Conventu Monasterii de Burgo Sancti petri pro Custodia omnium Temporalium eiusdem Abbacie nuper vacantis per mortem Roberti Kyrton ultime Abbatis Abbacie ibidem pro domino Rege in Cameram suam And that Tayle so indue Forme levyed ye delyver unto the sayd pryor or hys deputye berer herof in hys name without prest or other charges to be sett upon hym or eny of theym for the same And theys our lettres shalbe your waraunt in that behaulfe yeven under our pryve Seale at our Manor of Brydewell the xv<sup>th</sup> day of July The xxi<sup>th</sup> yere of our Reygne

Purde

**749.—The Abbot's Lodging.**—There are several entries in the registers of the Abbey of Burgh S. Peter relating to the Abbot's lodging in Mavines Lane, beside S. Paul's in the city of London. This property seems to have been a part of that given to the Abbey by Earl Harold. Hugo Candidus, in his history, (Sparke, p. 44,) refers to the Earl's gift thus:—

*Comes Harold dedit Cliftune et terram in Londonia juxta Monasterium Sancti Pauli et juxta portum que vocatur Etheredishythe.*

The property included several tenements. In 1 Ed. 2 there is an entry in Reg: Godfrey, fo. 89<sup>d</sup>, of a lease to Thomas, son of Martin de Iseldon of "quamdam particulam placee nostre in civitate Londini juxta bracinam S<sup>ci</sup> Pauli."

In later times Carter Lane was formed at the side of S. Paul's and the Bell Inn was built on the Abbot's property. The site is now covered by Bell Chambers, Carter Lane. In 1649 the Bell and other houses in Carter Lane belonging to the See of Peterborough were sold to Thomas Massame for £780 10s. Od., in pursuance of an Ordinance of Parliament of 1646, "for the payment of the just and necessary debts of the Kingdom."

L. G.

**750.—Lincolnshire Bagpipes (737).—**I do not think it was at all considered a national instrument of Scotland, or that its use was anything but general in England.

Chaucer's Miller played the bagpipe. (*Prologue*, 565, 6) :—

A baggepipe wel cowde he blowe and sowne  
And ther withal he broughte us out of towne.

Drayton in his *Polyolbion*, 1613 (Song xxv), has this :—

From Wytham, mine own town, first water'd with my source,  
As to the eastern sea I hasten on my course,  
Who sees so pleasant play, or is of fairer seen ?  
Whose swains in shepherds' grey, and girls in Lincoln green,  
Whilst some the rings of bells, and some the bagpipes ply.

Compare also Drayton's description of a sheep-shearing feast in the Vale of Evesham :—

And whilst the bagpipe plays, each jocund swain  
Quaffs syllabubs in cans to all upon the plain.

In William Browne's "*Britannia's Pastorals*," 1616 (Bk. ij), we read :—

The Lady of the May  
Set in an Arbor (on a holiday)  
Built by the Maypole, where the jocund swains  
Dance with the maidens to the bagpipe's strains.

Thorp, in 1407, in evidence before Archbishop Arundel, complained of the Canterbury pilgrims :—

They will ordain to have with them both men and women that can well sing wanton songs; and some other pilgrims will have with them bagpipes.

These quotations do not explain the particular expression given by Shakspere; but they shew that the bagpipe was a common village instrument in England. F.A.H.

**751.—Terrier of Deeping S. James (727).—**At page 125, among the *Fen Provincialisms*, is a definition of "strappings" or "stoppings" which will help to explain what a "strop-milch cow" is. In Halliwell's Dictionary is the following :—

STROP.—To milk a cow with pressure of finger and thumb, and so to draw the last drops. In doing this cleverly consists the art of milking, as an unskilled hand is apt, by not attending to this part of the mystery, to dry up a cow's milk. A *stropped milk cow* is a cow about to calve, and therefore, as they express it, one not in full profit; that cannot be milked full handed, but must be stropped.—Linc.

J.P.

**752.—Corrodies.**—A corrody was a right of sustenance reserved by a founder of a religious house. The word is derived from the mediæval Latin *corredare*, to fit out. In its primary sense the right was limited to the life-time of the founder, but when the King was founder he had, in right of the crown, a corrody in perpetuity for any of his subjects. This was the way in which the King pensioned off his old servants, greatly to the oppression of religious houses of royal foundation. A corrody is thus distinguished from a pension, which was a grant to a King's chaplain for his maintenance till provided with a benefice.

There is a return from Burgh S. Peter in 1324 of those pensioned and garrisoned in the abbey at the King's request. There had been complaints throughout England: and the statute of 1326, "*Pro corrodiiis, pensionibus, vel prebendinationibus*" was intended to soothe the ecclesiastics. It recites that Abbots and Priors have been much aggrieved by menaces of the King for pensions on behalf of his clerks and servants, and declares that henceforward "*le Roi ne veut desore mes la ou il devera,*" the King will thereafter only demand where he has a right.

There are instances on the Patent Rolls of corrodies granted by Priors and Abbesses. Thus there is an inspeximus\* and confirmation of indenture dated at Nuns Tarent on S. Mark's day, 1377, whereby the Abbess and Convent granted to their chaplain for life a weekly corrody of 7 white loaves, 7 flagons of the better ale, and a daily pittance of fish or flesh such as each nun receives, a cartload of wood and a cartload of litter yearly at Michaelmas, together with a south chamber. Again, at Stoke Curey,† there is a grant dated Wednesday after S. Dunstan, 40 Edw. III., in favour of Hyde Horslegh, parson of Kydesford, in consideration of £200, of a corrody for life, viz., a seat at the Prior's principal upper table by his side, food and drink such as the Prior has, and for one servant such as the

\* Pat. 5 Rich. II. part 1, m. 31.

† Pat. 6 Rich. II. part 2, m. 20.

"men of mester" have, and a several chamber with chimney and latrine, two loads of wood yearly, 6 lbs. Paris candles yearly, a quart of the better ale every night from Michaelmas to the Annunciation, and stable and fodder for one horse. If too ill to sit at table he was to have two shillings a week instead; and he might have a meal and a night's lodging once or twice a month for a friend without paying for it.

The Peterborough abbey registers are full of entries about the corrodies. In 1329, when Hugh Treganon, yeoman of the King's chamber, was sent down *vice* Gilbert le Botiller, the Prior postponed his reception until he had been to court and obtained an acknowledgement, which is enrolled on the patent,\* that Hugh's admission was not to be regarded as a precedent, *concessio illa non trahatur in consequentiam in future*.

The following entries, among others, occur:—

- 1314 21 Feb. Will. de Stonham is sent to receive the necessaries of life.
- 1316 10 Nov. Simon del Larder, who has long served the King, is sent to receive the like maintenance as Will. le Charether, deceased, had.
- 1317 28 Dec. To admit Will. Wyhgtoutlagh squire, who has long served the King, and who is now broken down with age and infirmity, and can no longer labour.
- 1485 7 Oct. David Philip to have the corrody void by death of Sir Will. Stok.
- 1518 4 Sep. Thos. Berry gent. of Chapel Royal, to have the corrody *vice* John Goldington, deceased.

There are also many corrodies granted to benefactors in consideration of service or transfer of land to the convent. The terms of these vary. The dinner clause is carefully worded to secure good ale and plenty of it: *singulis diebus duas lagenas cervisie conventualis de eodem doleo quo monachi bibunt*. The Lullington corrody, taken from Abbot Godfrey's register, is in the form ordinarily used.

Scriptum Johannis de Lullington. Omnibus Christi fidelibus presens scriptum visuris vel audituris Godefridus permissione divina Abbas de Burgo Sancti Petri et ejusdem loci Conventus salutem in Domino. Noveritis nos pro nobis et successoribus nostris concessisse Johanni, filio domini Gregorii de Lullington militis rationabilem sustentacionem in tota vita Ipeius Johannis pro se duobus garcionibus et duobus equis in Abbacia

\* Pat. 4 Edw. 3, I. 6.

nostra de Burgo Sancti Petri cum camera competenti et stabulo pro duobus equis suis in Abbatia nostra predicta Ita videlicet quod predictus Johannes cum superioribus libere familie Abbatis de Burgo et successorum suorum in aula ipsius Abbatis ad mensam declinet et admittatur et garciones sui cum garcionibus ipsius Abbatis et successorum suorum in mensa admittantur. Et si contingat quod predictus Johannes causa infirmitatis vel alia causa necessaria honesta ad mensam in aulam predicti Abbatis et successorum suorum accedere nequiverit, volumus et concedimus pro nobis et successoribus nostris quod idem Johannes recipiat de Celario ipsius Abbatis et successorum suorum singulis diebus duos panes albos duas lagenas bone cervisie et unum ferculum integrum de coquina Abbatis et successorum suorum cum uno intermisso, Et garciones sui in aula predicta in victualibus cum garcionibus ipsius Abbatis et successorum suorum recipiantur, et quod idem Johannes recipiat pro equis suis cotidie fenum sufficiens et octavam partem quarterii avenarum et provenda pro eisdem et focale sufficiens tempore hyemali in Camera sua prout alii liberi famuli recipiunt in Cameris suis tempore predicto. Et idem Johannes recipiet singulis annis de garderoba ipsius Abbatis et successorum suorum duas robas, unam videlicet de meliori secta valettorum ad festum Sancti Martini, et aliam ad Pentecostem sibi statu suo competentem cum fururis decentibus et decem libras sterlingorum annuatim in Abbatia predicta ad quatuor anni terminos, videlicet, ad festum Sancti Johannis Baptiste quinquaginta solidos, ad festum Sancti Michaelis quinquaginta solidos, ad Natale Domini quinquaginta solidos, et ad Pascha quinquaginta solidos. Istam convencionem fideliter facere promittunt dicti Abbas et Conventus pro se et successoribus suis in tota vita ipsius Johannis sub pena quadraginta marcarum eidem Johanni solvendarum, cum eos contigerit, quod absit, in predicta convencione eidem Johanni minus plene satisfacere aut desistendo deficere. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti scripto sigilla nostra fecimus apponi. Datum in Capitulo nostro die Martis proximo post festum Sancti Marci Evangeliste A° Dni. M°. iij° quarto. [Reg. Godfrey, fo. 80, d.]

This may be translated as follows:—"The instrument of John de Lullington.

"To all the faithful in Christ who shall see or hear this present instrument, Godfrey, by divine permission Abbot of Burgh S. Peter, and the Convent thereof, send greeting. Know ye that we for ourselves and our successors have granted to John, son of Gregory de Lullington, Knight, a suitable sustenance for his life, for himself and two attendants and two horses in our Abbey of Burgh S. Peter, with a sufficient chamber and a stable for two horses in our Abbey aforesaid; so that the said John may come and sit at meals in the Abbot's hall with the higher members of the free household of the Abbot of Burgh and his successors; and his attendants may sit at table with those of the Abbot. And if it should happen that the said John by reason of illness or other valid necessity shall be unable to come to table in the Abbot's hall, we will and grant

for ourselves and our successors that the same John may receive from the Abbot's larder each day two white loaves, two gallons of good beer, and a full portion of food from the kitchen of the Abbot and his successors on alternate days; and his attendants may be received at meals with the attendants of the Abbot and his successors: and the said John may receive daily for his horses sufficient hay and the eighth part of a quarter of oats and fodder for them, and sufficient firewood in winter time in his chamber like the other free retainers receive in their chambers in winter. And the said John may have each year from the wardrobe of the Abbot and his successors two robes, one of the better suit of the valets at the feast of S. Martin, and the other at Pentecost proper for his rank with suitable fur, and ten pounds sterling annually in the Abbey aforesaid at the four quarter days, namely, at the feast of S. John Baptist fifty shillings, and the like sum at the feasts of S. Michael, Christmas, and Easter. This covenant the said Abbot and Convent for themselves and successors faithfully promise to perform for the lifetime of the said John, under the penalty of forty marks payable to him if it should happen, which God forbid, that they should fail to satisfy him in the said covenant. In witness whereof to this present instrument we have caused our seals to be affixed. Done in our Chapter-house on Tuesday next after the feast of S. Mark the Evangelist A.D. 1304."

There are a few grants in favour of widows, with a *dum sola et casta* clause. That of Dame Agnes Lincoln is a well known instance. From Gunton\* we learn that on the right hand side of the passage leading from the New Building to the Lady Chapel there was a chapel with windows in the east and narrow ones in the north looking in the Lady Chapel, and over the chapel were two chambers known as Dame Agnes' Lodging: from this was made a squint so that she could look down on the altar.

\* Page 99.

While all the Convent slept the Dame Agnes kept her saintly vigil. The early Celebrants who passed at dawn looked for the light which gleamed from her chamber through the dark shadow of the Abbey.

Through misty morn to matins slowly came  
In silence and in prayer, when no light shone,  
Save where the Lady Agnes kept her watch  
A glimmer pierced the gloom, and struck across  
The grassy mounds heap'd o'er the citizens:  
They said, "Her lamp shines bright; the Lady lives:"  
And now "Her chamber's dark; her soul has fled."

Gunton declares that he has been unable to discover anything about Dame Agnes, except that a wood in the neighbourhood of Peterborough is still called by her name. But assuming that the title "Dame" is correctly given, I think we may be right in saying that she was the widow of Sir Richard Lincoln. Bishop Kennett says that the Lincolns resided in Lincoln Place, adjacent to Swan's Pool. There was a corrody granted to Sir Richard Lincoln and Agnes his wife, and the survivor of them; and one attested May 5, 1414, in favour of Robert Bulwer of Burgh and Agnes his wife, provides that they shall have loaves called "Prikkydloves" and ale from the Abbot's cellar, and terminates with the clause, *Recepimus vero predictos Robertum et Agnetem uxorem suam in fraternitatem monasterii nostri predicti et concedimus eisdem quod erunt participes omnium orationum meritorum et beneficiorum que fient in dicto monasterio pro fratribus nostris imperpetuum.*

L. GACHES.

**758.—William Aprece of Washingley.**—The manor of Washingley passed in the reign of Henry VII. from the Drewe family by the marriage of Joanna with Robert Aprece. The Apreces, of Welsh race, came into England soon after Henry Tudor asserted his claim to the Crown.\* The spelling

\* A memorial in Lutton church names his father "Isaac nobilis Wallus." In 1447, W. Alnwick, Bishop of Lincoln, united the church of Washingley with Lutton. The fabric of Washingley church was applied to the repair of Lutton church.



of Aprece varies. Ap Rys, A-Prece, and Price occur.\* In the ecclesiastical affairs of the diocese of Lincoln the Apreces figure prominently as recusants. As persistent Papists it would be difficult to find their match. From the Reformation to the Restoration the name of Price is sure to be found in the list of "recusants," as those who wilfully absented themselves from their parish church were styled. Papists did not attract much attention till 1 Eliz., c. 2. Thereafter no quiet life for them in England. Two-thirds of their estate was forfeit to the Crown, and those who refused to abjure were deemed felons without benefit of clergy. A cruel practice prevailed of making grants of the benefits of recusancy towards the satisfaction of debts of the Crown.† The greedy cormorants who surrounded the court made a prey of the Christian who would yield all to live in peace and regulate his life as a faithful catholic. In October, 1577, the Bishop of Lincoln wrote to the Privy Council:—

In Huntingdonshire there is one M<sup>r</sup>. Price a justice of peace who bothe himself and his wife with other of his family forbeareth the churche with whom I talked not yet a yeare since and gave him a time of respecte to consulte with himself what he would do, but I perceive not amendmente. He thinketh that I do him injurie to deal with him because as his house is in my diocesse so his parishe churche is in Peterborowe diocesse. The value of his land is esteemed 400 marke by the yeare and is other wayes verie welthie.

Their lordships left Mr. Price alone. The Bishop next tried Sir F. Walsingham, who was pretty sure to give a papist no rest.

To the rt. honb<sup>l</sup>. and my especial good frinde S<sup>r</sup> ffrancys Walsingham K<sup>t</sup>. and principall Secretarie to hir Ma<sup>ty</sup>.

My verie hartie comendacons p<sup>r</sup>misid. Righte honorable, I understande that M<sup>r</sup> Price of Washingley in Huntingdonshire is comitted to the

\* Robert Price, armiger, 1604, occurs on Lutton bells. This Robert died in 1622, aged 90. He was a recusant convict in 1604. At his death he was found to be owner of Sadlebowe Manor at Lynn Maudlins, &c., and of an ancient windmill, and of one newly built at Stilton, and of a messuage called "the George" in Stilton, and of an orchard and a messuage called "the Angel" in Stilton, recently bought of Miles Forest.—Inquls. post Mort. 19 Jac. 1. B. 43, No. 182. In 1541, Robert, the second of that name, was accused before the P.C. of high treason for fostering the authority of the bishop of Rome.

† The common form is given in law books of the time; thus: To the Treasurer &c. of our Exchequer. "We let you wette that in consideracon of the good service heretofore don unto us by or. welbelovied servaunte W—— esqr. and for other good causes and consideracons us hereunto specially moving we have given and graunted & by these presents for us & or. heires and successors we do give and graunt unto the said A. & his assynes all the penalties forfeitures & sommes of money forfeited by the said J. D. by reason of the statute."

fleete eyther by your honors or by the Heigh Comissioners, his wiffe\* remayninge still in Huntingdonshire who indeede is more obstinate and wilfull than he is and thoughte to be some great cause of hir husbandes stifnes and disorder; And for so much as I understande that hir example and remayninge theare withoute examinacon did greate harme to the cuntry I did in hir Ma<sup>ties</sup> name by vertue of the comission ecclesiastical sende for hir but shee contemptuouly refused and caste the processe on the grounde saying that shee had nothing to doe with mee. And since my coming forthe it is geaven me to understande that because shee wolde scape oute of my handes and not be examined shee is or presentlie will be removed oute of my diocesse wch example is verie yll to suche as hereafter I shall offer to deale with and therobie I am suer I shall be likewise used by others† therefore I hartily desire yor honor soe to worke withe my LL. of the privie counsell that shee may be sente againe to hir howse to be examined by mee. It will then be good example to the cuntry if shee may be theare dealete witheall otherwise they will thinke I let hir scape of purpose as beinge contente to wincke at hir. And yf yor hon<sup>r</sup> and some other have not a careful eye to M<sup>r</sup>. Price himselfe undoubtedlie he will get himselfe discharged without conformitie for I knowe wch waye greates frendship will be made for him under some colourable pretences. The Lorde strengthen yor honours with spirit of his true zeale to procede with these kinde of men otherwise the inconveniences will be greates. Another thinge theare is wherein I hartelie desire yor honors helpe to my ll. of the counsell and that is for favor to be observed to M<sup>r</sup>. John Wharffe gent. of the countie of Lincoln for whom I have once written alredie to my lord Treasurer in respecte of his sincere conformitie and his honor liked well of the motion, but yet the gentleman remayneth not discharged; and also for one other that is verie well conformed called John Moreby yeoman of the same shire. As I and M<sup>r</sup>. Sentpoll have been almoste the onlie wourkers of their juste punishment for their disobedience soe I hartilie desire you that our credites maie be no lesse then others to their deliverance seing that wee knowe them to be nowe conformable to hir Ma<sup>ties</sup> lawes as any othir are towards whome it hathe pleased yor honors to extende yor mercie. And thus the Almgthy God p<sup>r</sup>serve you to his gloria. Smithfelde the xiiij daie of November 1580.

Your honors in Christe assured

Thomas Lincoln.†

On 4 August, 1581, the Lords of the Council sent directions to Sir W. Mildmay, Sir A. Darcie, and Sir Edmonde Montague "that thei make their repair uppon the sodaine unto the house of one Mr. Price in Huntingdonshire wither Edmund Campion hath confessed that he appointed his man Raffe Emersonn which attended on him, to bringe certaine bookes and papers and that they cause the same house to be diligentlie and substantially searched for the said Emersonn and such bookes and other superstitious stuffe as maie be founde there"; And on 17 Oct., to the Bishop of Lincoln "for his dealing with Mr.

\* Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Robert Latimer.

† Under the Act of 1 Eliz., a woman might be fined, but by 35 Eliz., c. 2, women were not to be compelled to abjure.

‡ Dom. Eliz., Vol. 144, f. 26.

Price of Washingley and his wyfe he do by authoritie hereof call Mr. Price and his wyfe before him wheresoever they shall be remayning out of his lordships dyoces and to take such order with them for their contempte and disobeying of her Maties lawes as he hathe done with others in lyke case." Their lordships had resolved in 1580 "that order shalbe taken to make Mistres Price knowe her faulte in that she hathe contemptuously disobeid the proces awarded out against her and thereuppon fled out of the diocese."

Mrs. Aprece kept out of the way. Her husband was apprehended and committed to prison, and it is not till 1584 that he is heard of again, when the Constable of the Tower sends the following report to the Privy Council:—

[Endorsed.] M<sup>r</sup>. Topolyffes note touching the imprisonment of W<sup>m</sup>. Apyrse in the Tower.\*

The causes wherfore Will<sup>m</sup> Apyrse prisoner in the Tower was apprehended and comytted.

W<sup>m</sup>. Apyrse beinge a long tyme an obstinayte recusant and papist, hee was stewarde & principall interteaner receiver and secret conveyar of all suche traitorous Seamenaries wch resorted to Washingley his manor & house whereof himself hathe confessyd ten by nayme under his hands beside recusants and feugytyves whose lyke resorted thether as well when his ma<sup>r</sup>. was from home or at home as to a harborow colledge or Sayntuary passyng from North to Southe to the perrillous example and infection of those countries.

He receved of them & kept for them ther traitorous & sedicious books & trumpery for massing and was of counsell with the making of a secret contrivance in a dooble wawle wherin they used to hide the same & the preest when need requyred.

He concealed the same place and so did he the beenge of iij preests and lodginge them in the house wherof he was preevee the same night & morninge when I maid the seartche beinge charged upon his alledgeance to discover the trewth for culloringe whereof he furder challenged to be ma<sup>r</sup>. to the preests boye whom I apprehended & stooode therein as the boy (cawled Jackson) did to the hinderance of a greater service.

Being comytted to the Clyncke† and the boye unto Brydewell and there confessinge the trewth and all this with Willm Apyrse knowinge the boye had mayd a confessyon (but did not knowe the perticularytees) hee confessed the same perticularytees and muche more upon his oathe. The boye was released grewe conformable and was putt to a good master and stacyoner one M<sup>r</sup>. Norton. Willm Apyrse practized with Cawood's man and Sir Thos Tresham's men to steale the boye from that good master and emongs them the boye was from thece conveyghed away and whether he is murderred or sente beyond seas yet unknown because the boye was suspected he would discover more lardgeley. And after the boye was thus

\* This is probably of about the year 1584. It is taken from State Papers, Dom. Eliz. CLXXV, 87.

† The Clink, the prison of the liberty of the Bishop of Winchester and Southwark. It was burnt by the mob in the riots of 1780.

conveighed away this Willm Apryse did forthwithe revoake his othe and confessyon for which and that he myght discover what was become of the boye her Maties subject; and for dallyenge with aucthorytie unlike a dewtyfull subject dyvers wayes; and for other good grownds he was removed by the consent of dyvers of my llords to the Tower. And of this and furdur matter I have delyvered unto your honor dyvers tymes instructyons as when mystress Chaworthe sought his lybertie.

Ryc. Topclyffe.

The Council Register between 1582 and 1586 is lost, so it is not easy to ascertain the time of Mr. Aprece's discharge from prison. In 1611 Thos. Dove, Bp. of Peterborough, reported that he had not been negligent in administering the oath of allegiance to all in his diocese, and regretted that Price of Washingley, a notorious recusant, was beyond his reach. The last of the Apreces of Washingley was John, who died 26 July, 1821.\* He signalised his exit from the scenes of the persecution which had impoverished his family by an act of charity. He endowed a charity at Stilton and built an almshouse for 7 poor aged women.

Forty years ago the old hall was ruinous; the gamekeeper lodged in one room, in the others jackdaws and owls.

L. GACHES.

754.—**Drayton**.—This parish is frequently mentioned in Domesday Book of Lincolnshire, and seems to have been near Boston, and the chief seat of Earl Alan in the neighbourhood. Presumably it was identical with Swineshead, which is not mentioned in Domesday, and which now contains a hamlet called Drayton. The name Swineshead, probably meaning the head of the swin or creek called Bicker Haven, was certainly in use in King John's time. Can any of your readers produce evidence to identify it with Drayton?

G. JEBB.

\* Thomas Hussey Aprece, born 1744, 7th in descent from Robert Ap-Rhese, of Washingley, was created baronet 1782. Sir Thomas, whose death occurred in 1842, devised the whole of his estate to S. George's Hospital, London. The validity of the will was contested by his heir-at-law, judgment being, in first instance, given for the Hospital: an appeal was compromised and the estate divided. All the properties were put up for sale but Washingley found no purchaser till 1869. Sir Thomas's son, Shuck-burg Aahby Aprece, who resided at Washingley, died in 1807, S.P. A fine series of Aprece portraits, including one of Sir James Willford, whose daughter the 1st Robert married, is at S. George's Hospital. Robert of the 4th generation, a colonel in King Charles' army, was killed at Lincoln. Armorial: Sable, 3 spears' heads, argent; guttee de sang; crest, a spear head; motto, *Labore ut in sternum vivas*.

**755.—Some early March Wills.**—The following abstracts of March wills are from the earliest book in the Consistory Court of Ely, now in the District Probate Registry at Peterborough.

William Payn of Marche: dated 18 Apr., 1456, proved 4 May, 1456. Fo. 14.

To be buried in cimiterio Sancte Wendrede Virginis. To high altar 2s. To gild of S. John Baptist 2s. To gild of S. Peter a tenement at Wylmyngton and 2s. To Elene my wife my house (*mansionem*) and appurtenances for life, afterwards to my son John. To Alice my daughter 2 roods arable land lying near Estwod. To Agnes my daughter 2 roods of arable land in Northfen. Residue to be sold and disposed at discretion of my exors. for my soul and the souls of my parents and benefactors. Exors., my son John Payn, John Spynk. Witnesses, John Vernon, William Vernon.

Johanna Baker of Marche: dated 14 Jan., 1460, proved 5 Feb., 1460. Fo. 16.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Wendreda. For my principal according to custom of town. To high altar 4d. To gild of Holy Trinity 4d. To Alice Lambard daughter of Thomas Lambard my best brass pot. To gilds of S. Mary, S. Anne, S. Wendreda, S. John Baptist, each 4d. To Christian daughter of John Ingraham of Chatteris another brass pot. To Isabel Rede of Chatteris a brass pan (*patella*) with 2 little ears (*1 auriclie*) of potbrass. To orders of friars minor at Cambridge, preaching friars, hermit friars, Carmelites, each 3s. 4d. Residue at disposition of exors., Simon Preste, and John Spencer, Botewryght. Witnesses, Richard Mobbe, Sen., Thomas Mobbe.

John Dogett of March: dated 12 Jan., 1460, proved 14 March, 1460. Fo. 16.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Wendreda. For principal according to custom of town. To high altar 12d. To sepulchre (*tumbe*) of S. Wendreda 6d. To gild of Holy Trinity 3s. 4d. To Agnes my daughter 13s. 4d. Wife to have dwelling house, half rood of good land (*dure*)\* in Derfordfeld, 8 acres of marsh (*morose*) land in Mondfordlands, and croft called Bischopslands with appurtenances for life; then to my sons William and John. One acre of good land and 3 roods in Townefeld to be sold by exors., Margaret my wife, and William Kydd. Residue at disposition of exors. Supervisor, John Beherrich. Witnesses, William Cowerd, Richard Phipps, William Poryng.

Simon Emneth of Marche: dated 15 Nov., 1453, proved 26 Dec., 1454. Fo. 38.

My best animal for mortuary. To high altar 12d. To gild of S. Anne 12d. To Elene my wife my dwelling house (*edificium*) and 2 acres arable for life. To Nicholas my son a brass pot. To Margaret my daughter a brass pan. Residue to wife and John Barrett, exors.

\* Probably well-drained, as opposed to boggy ground.

Philip Coward of Marche: dated 12 Jan., 1454, proved 31 Jan., 1454. Fo. 38.

My best animal for mortuary. To high altar 12d. To gild of S. Mary and gild of S. John Baptist, each 12d. and one table. To rood loft (*fabrice le rodeloft in Ecclesia de Marche*) 40s. To south porch (*portiu Ecclesie ex parte Australi*) 40s. To John my grandson (*nepos*) a brass pot. Residue to Henry Dyx and William Barrett, exors., to dispose at discretion.

John Scharpe of Marche: dated 16 Feb., 1454, proved 24 Feb., 1454. Fo. 38.

My best animal for mortuary. To high altar 12d. To fabric of church 12d. To light of S. Wendreda 3 pounds of wax. To repairs (*emendacioni*) of sepulchre of S. Wendreda 12d. Residue to John Scharpe my grandson (*nepoti*), exor., and to Roger Seymour, chaplain, supervisor, to dispose for my soul.

Administration of goods of William Barrett of March intestate granted to Agnes his wife, 27 March 1455. Fo. 41.

John Rykkys of Marche: dated 16 June, 1455, proved 21 June, 1457. Fo. 47.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Wendreda. For principal according to custom of town. To high altar for tithes forgotten 12d. To gild of S. Mary and of S. Wendreda, each 12d. To my son John Rykkys, Jun., £4 when he comes of age. Agnes my wife to have all utensils appertaining to my house, chamber, and kitchen, for life, then to John my son. Residue at disposal of my wife, executrix. Supervisor, John Prest. Witnesses, William Russell, John Bennyche, Alis Mathew.

Robert Dyx of Marche: dated 8 Nov., 1457, proved 1 Dec., 1457. Fo. 51.

For principal according to custom of town. For a linen cloth for the high altar 20d. To fabric of church 6s. 8d. To gild of Holy Trinity 40d. To Margaret my wife and Alis my daughter my dwelling house to the end of life of both, after to be sold by exors. or their attorneys. To John, Sen., son of John Cowerd a cow and a heifer. To Alis my daughter 6 cows. To Anis my maidservant a heifer. To Alis my daughter  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land in Westhowye, after her death to John, Sen., son of John Cowerd; if he die his brother Richard to have it; if he die his brother John, Jun., to have it. To John, Sen., son of John Cowerd, and to his brother Richard, each one rood of land. Six acres of land lying in field called Rowle to be sold by exors., John Cowerd and his son Robert Cowerd. Residue to exors. Witnesses, John Walsham, Thomas Warde.

Edmund Lytholf sojourning (*manens*) in Marche: dated on the day of S. Juliana the Virgin (16 Feb.), 1457, proved 1 March, 1457. Fo. 52.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar 12d. To fabric of church 12d. To John Litholf, Sen., my son 6s. 8d. To my wife half acre of land called Powta Hyrne, and all utensils of house and chamber, if my debts are paid. To Thomas my son the dwelling house in which I am sojourning (*maneo*) with appurtenances, carts, and waggons (*carectis et big'*), provided said Thomas pay 10 marks of debt which my

father owed to sundry men *manentibus* in the said town. One acre to be sold and distributed for my soul. To Anne my daughter my best brass pot and best pan. Residue to exors., Thomas Lytholf and John Lytholf. Supervisor, Simon Boughey. Witnesses, John Freeman, William Pylton, Thomas Clyfton.

John Mobbe of March: dated on the day of S. Ermenilda\* the Virgin (13 Feb.), 1457, proved immediately afterwards. Fo. 53.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar 6d. To fabric of church 12d. Dwelling house to Richard my son and lawful heirs of his body, failing these to my next son: if no heir then to be sold and distributed for all living and dead and for all to whom I am under any obligation (*omnibus quibus teneor*). To Robert my son 6 roods, if he die, to be sold. To Richard and Robert my sons all utensils of house and chamber. Residue to exors., to be sold for my soul, as they shall answer before God at the day of judgement. Exor. (only one named), Thomas Mobbe.

John Russell, sojourner (*manens*): dated on the day of S. Ambrose, Bishop (4 Apr.), 1458, proved 2 May, 1458. Fo. 56.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar 4d. To fabric of church 2s. To gild of S. Mary the Virgin 12d. To Robert my son and lawful heirs of his body my dwelling house, if no heirs to be sold. To Katharine my daughter half acre by the high road (*per regiam viam*), and a close. Residue to exors., Geoffrey Russell, William Baron. Witnesses, William Kyd, Thomas Stirlyng, Thomas Clyfton.

Alice formerly wife of Philip Kyd of March: dated Midlent Sunday (*media dominica quadragesime*, 27 March), 1457, proved 3 May, 1457. Fo. 56.

For principal according to custom of town. To repairs of image of S. Wendreda (*ad emendacionem Sancte Wendrede*) 4d. To high altar 2d. To the repair of the causeway where it most needs it (*ad reparacionem calcei ubi maxima nutantur*), 12d. Residue to exors., John Spynk, John Russell.

Joan formerly wife of Thomas Grymston of Marche: dated Friday in Easter week (7 Apr.), 1458, proved 3 May, 1458. Fo. 56.

To high altar 12d. To gild of Holy Trinity 12d. To John my son a table and brass pot. To Thomas my godson (*confiliolo*) a hutch. To John my son a coffer (*cista*). To Thomas my godson a pan holding 4 bushels, and a coverlet (*cooperturum*). To Agnes my sister my best cloak (*armilarsam*) and best coat. Residue to exors., John my son, John Hanworth.

Agnes Bull of Marche: dated on the day of S. Edward the King (18 March), 1457, proved 3 May, 1458. Fo. 56.

\* From information of the Rev. S. Baring Gould I learn that S. Ermenilda, whose name is not in any of the ordinary calendars, should not have been described as Virgin. She was a Queen, wife of Wulfhere, King of Mercia, and mother of S. Werburga. She was closely connected with the Ely district, having been the third abbess. The names of only four abbesses of Ely, the first four, are known. S. Etheldreda was succeeded by her sister, S. Sexburga; S. Sexburga by her daughter S. Ermenilda; and she by her daughter S. Werburga.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar a coverlet. To altar of S. Mary the Virgin a [illegible]. To gilds of S. Mary and S. Wendreda, each 12d. To fabric of church 20d. For repairing the King's way 20s. To Dan (*Domino*) John Freman for half a year to celebrate for my soul 4 marks. Residue to William Bull my son. Witnesses, John Spencer, William Andrew.

John Sothewold of March, Sen.: dated on the feast of S. Thomas the Apostle (21 Dec.), 1457, proved 13 March, 1458. Fo. 56.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar, fabric of church, high altar of Elm, fabric of church of Elm, bridge at Elm, each 2s. To Joan my wife and Thomas Sothewolde my dwelling house and furniture and 30 acres of land called Lawndsfeld, Thomas to pay to Dan John Freman chaplain 8 marks to pray for my soul. Residue to exor., John my son. Witnesses, Thomas Clyfton, Richard Estmond, John Sothewold.

William Esmond of Marche: dated on the Vigil of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin (14 Aug.), 1458, proved 25 Oct., 1458. Fo. 61.

To high altar 12d. To church 6s. 8d. To Amisia my wife croft called Serefeldgold. All my good (*duras*) lands in Townefeld to disposal of exors. To Pardus Estmond my son all my pastures for remainder of lease (*durante termino meo quem habeo in illis*): said son to have also option of purchase of certain goods at price of 26s. 8d. Residue to wife and son, exors. Witnesses, William Rede, Symon Raingold, Robert Scrape, John Reverrick.

John Preest of Marche: dated on the day before the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (13 Sep.), 1458, proved 30 Oct., 1458. Fo. 61.

Christina my wife to have dwelling house with some acres of marsh land on north side of Vipe, also holt near Cotelode on east containing 1½ acre of marsh land, also acre and langnet\* of marsh land on north of Vipe aforesaid near Nonhous on east, also 2 acres of good land called Derfordfelde, till son John come to age of 18: then he to have lands with his mother during her life, and after her death to have them wholly. If he die under age wife to have them, and then to be sold by exors. To said son 3 brass pots, 2 brass pans, one shovel, and one bason (?). Exors. to sell 2½ acres marsh land, one acre of good land, and one small piece of meadow land. Residue to exors., Simon Prees, William Andrews. Witnesses, John Walsham, sen., William Russell, William Baulbyk.

Joan Southwold of March: dated feast of SS. Simon and Jude, 1458, proved 3 June, 1459. Fo. 67.

For principal according to custom of town. To high altar for tithes forgotten 12d. To Henry Dyx my son 3 roods of hard land in Townefeld called le Stubhows. Richard Estmond and Alice his wife to have ½ acre of hard land (*terre durantis*) lying in le Chyrchercofts, on condition of paying 10s. to orders of friars at Cambridge. Dwelling house to be sold, and proceeds to be distributed by exors. To Richard Estmond my best brass pot. To Richard Dyx and John his son my best brass pan. Residue at disposal of exors., Richard Estmond and Richard Dyx. Witnesses, John Walbot, John Mob Sen., &c.

\* Probably land-gate, a long narrow piece of land.



**756.—Gilds at Peterborough.** — Gilds, fraternities, companies or brotherhoods made for devotion, were dissolved by an Act of 32 Henry VIII. c. 20, and all their property vested in the Crown. The licence in mortmain was granted by virtue of the royal prerogative to dispense with the operation of Acts of Parliament which affected Crown interests. This licence relating to the Peterborough gilds is enrolled on the patent rolls of 4 Edw. IV. p<sup>t</sup> 1<sup>m</sup>. 15. A.D. 1464.

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|---|---|
| Pro tenentibus<br>ville R(egie) de<br>Peterburgh. | Rex omnibus ad quos &c Salutem. Sciatis quod de gratia nostra speciali in consideracone bonorum et fidelium cordum ac diligencium servitorum que humiles subditi et veri ligei nostri ac tenentes ville nostre de Peterburgh nobis preantea gesserunt et impenderunt et adhuc gerere et impendere nobis in futuris intendunt durante vita eorum concessimus fratribus et sororibus gildarum beate Marie Sancti-Johannis Sancti-Georgii et Sancti-Jacobi in ecclesia Sancti-Johannis infra dictam villam nostram plenam auctoritatem potestatem et licenciam perquirendi terras et redditus tenementa et possessiones pro sustentacone earumdem gildarum et pro relevamine presbiterorum earumdem gildarum usque ad valorem viginti librarum per annum ultra omnes reprisas Statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendis edito aut aliquo alio statuto actu sive ordinacone incontrarium facto seu fiendo non obstante. In ejus &c T(este). R(ege). apud Penley secundo die Septembris. |
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The town is in this licence called the King's town of Peterborough. The King grants to "our lowly subjects and true liege men and tenants" of the town, in consideration of their good services in the past and good intentions for the future, that the brethren and sisters of the gilds of the Blessed Virgin Mary, S. John, S. George, and S. James, within the church of S. John, may have authority to acquire lands, rents, tenements, and possessions, for the support of the gilds and the gild priests, to the annual value of twenty pounds after all deductions are made; the statute of mortmain or any other statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

The confiscation of the property of gilds by Henry VIII. was carried out on the ground that they were religious bodies. In one sense this was so, because they always made provision for religious observances and sometimes had regular chaplains. But gilds were in fact mutual benefit societies, with marked social and festal characteristics. A modern scheme for disendowment of the Church might as well include all the property

of the various benefit clubs in the kingdom, because in their Anniversaries they attend a Church service in their scarves and with all their office-bearers wearing the insignia of their offices.

L. G.

**757.—Woolcombers in Peterborough (731).**—Thomas Deacon, the benefactor to the town, was described in his marriage licence as a Woolcomber. On his monument in the cathedral it says that he "had an ample estate, which he fairly acquired, and increased by an honest industry, and managed with excellent prudence, and disposed of it for laudable purposes."

In the cathedral registers we find evidence of this industry employing numerous persons. The following are described as Woolcombers at the dates given:—Jonathan Palmes, 1699; John Bass, "of the Minster," 1700; Compton Moor, 1701; Thomas Abbot, 1703; Anthony Apperby, 1701; John Kinton, 1715; John Giles, 1723; and another Anthony Apperby, 1726.

'Ed.

**758.—The Parliamentary Chronicle.**—From a rare book entitled "Jehovah-Jireh. God in the Mount. Or, Englands Parliamentarie-Chronicle," I send some extracts relating to the Fenland district. The author is John Vicars, an enthusiastic supporter of the parliament party. The period covered by the chronicle is from 1641 to October 1643.

M. M. D.

*Cambridge* Countie also petitioning the Parliament for furnishment of Armes for the defence of their County against the Malignant *Commissioners of Array*, the Parliament ordered, that not onely they, but all other Counties over the whole Kingdome should be assisted with such moneyes as had formerly been collected for Horse, Armes, and Ammunition in the last Northern expedition, and had not been disposed of for the defence of those severall Counties, where the money had been so collected. (P. 98.)

*Lincolnshire* made known their readinesse, alacrity and cheerfullnesse to yield obedience in speedie putting the Ordinance for the *Militia* in execution; the Lord *Willoughby of Parrham* also further intimating the resolution of that County to defend his Majesties person, and to preserve the priviledges of Parliament, and to oppose all such as endeavoured to separate his Majesty from his great Counsell of Parliament. (Ib.)

The next extract is a good specimen of the courteous and temperate character of the author's language.

It pleased the Lord most graciously to give us divers sweet and most memorable returns of our Prayers, as first, that on that very *Thursday* [1 Sep. 1642], the Earl of *Carlisle*, and one Master *Russell*, two great Malignants against the Cause of God, and his Church, who intended to have put the *Commission of Array* in execution at *Cambridge*, were both of them there apprehended without any blood shed & brought up to *London* to the Parl. Also the very same day in the afternoon, (for, the other two came to *London* in the forenoon) a brave & courageous Troop of *London* Dragoons brought to the Parl. that most mischievous Viper of our Church & State too, *Mathew Wren* Bp. of *Elie*, as also Dr. *Martine*, Dr. *Beal*, and Dr. *Sterna*, three very pestilent and bad Birds, of the same Viperous brood, with other Prisoners, brought up to the Parliament, who are all now, lockt up in Cages, most fit for such ravenous Vultures, and unclean Birds of prey; with whom also, those valiant Troopers brought a great Trunke full of marvellous rich Silver and guilt Plate and Money, as some reported on credible information, to the value of at least 1000*l.* some said 1500*l.* together with a great piece of Ordnance and other Ammunition, all this found in the said *Wrens* house, which was all carried, that very same day, to the *Guild-Hall* in *London*. (P. 149.)

Much about which time [March, 1643], upon a hot and true report and intelligence, that the Lord *Capell*, a great Malignant, with some Troops of Horse, intended to shape his course, and to March to *Cambridge*, with a purpose to have taken it for the use of his Majesty; but noble and active Colonell *Cromwell*, having happily prevented him, with the associated Counties about *Cambridge*, especially *Essex*, sending in most speedily very numerous auxillarie forces, to oppose the utmost power of the Lord *Capell*, his wise Lordship providently diverted his purpose, and come not thither, fearing (very justly) too hot entertainment. For, there was, indeed, assembled thither in a very short space, neer about thirty thousand able armed fighting men. But all being well and safe for the present, they were (with very hearty thanks for their faithfull forwardnesse) dismissed and sent home again, save only one thousand to strengthen the Town. But, ere they departed, a list was given in of at least 23000, who at three dayes warning would be ready to march thither again on any just occasion thereunto. Thus we see how our God infuses and inflames zeal into the hearts of his people, to shew themselves ready and cheerfull to come forth to help the Lord against the mighty *Nimrods* and hunting Furies of our times. O who, then, can distrust such a God, such a Cause? (P. 273.)

**759.—A Lincolnshire Terrier.**—The following cutting from *The Standard* of 23 Dec., 1898, is worth preserving in our pages. This animal has no connection with the terrier in Art. 727.

The homing instinct of the terrier has this week been well illustrated in Lincolnshire. About a month ago, a Bourne tradesman received by rail a terrier from Freston, in the Wash. The animal was taken to a village three miles distant, where it remained three weeks. On Saturday night it was missing. On Tuesday a letter was received, stating that the terrier had safely reached its old home at Freston, early on Monday morning. The animal had traversed the entire breadth of the Lincolnshire Fens, a distance of forty miles, over an intricate maze of dyke and fen.

G. TALBOT.

**760.—Civil War, 1642.**—The following cuttings are from *Mercurius Aulicus* for the above year.

It was advertised this day from *Peterburgh*, that Colonell *Cromwell* had bestowed a visit on that little City, and put them to the charge of his entertainment, plundering a great part thereof to discharge the reckoning, and further that in pursuance of the thorow *Reformation*, he did most miserably deface the *Cathedrall* Church, breake downe the *Organs*, and destroy the glasse windowes, committing many other outrages on the house of God which were not acted by the *Goths* in the sack of *Rome*, and are most commonly forborn by the *Turks* when they possesse themselves by force of a *Christian* city. (Friday, 28 April.)

A like successe was also certified to befall his Majesties [forces] not farre from *Sleyford* a Town in *Lincolnshire* where his Majesties Forces took no fewer than 140 of the Rebels Horse, who in great Bodies had been ranging about the Country, the reste escaping by quicke flight to *Nottingham*, to which the whole Bodie of them came on Saturday from a town called *Worton*, but came not thither with such safetie, but that Sir *Richard Byron* killed 32 of them upon their passage, and lost but one man of his own though they made many shot at him. (Thursday, 23 June.)

**761.—Siege of Crowland.**—A contemporary account of the fighting round Crowland in 1643 will be read with interest by many who have seen only short accounts of what then took place. The following is taken, from a work from which a few extracts were given in our last part. The short title is:—“*Jehovah-Jireh. God in the Movnt. Or, Englands Parliamentarie-Chronicle. London: 1644.*” This extract begins at p. 322.

“About the beginning also of this instant *May* [1643], most certain and credible information came from *Croyland, alias Crowland* in *Lincolnshire*, that one Captain *Welbie* (a most pernicious and desperate Malignant against the King and Parliament, and a most mischievous mover of rebellion and sedition in those parts) had so far inveigled the Queenes Tenants there in and about the said Town of *Crowland*, that he got them to adhere unto him, and to declare themselves with him and some other Commanders in open hostilitie against the Parliament, and to fortifie the said Town with brest-works and trenches very strongly: which being effected, *Welbie* and his companie (pestilent Malignants) came in the night to *Spalding* the next neighbouring Town, which at that time was utterly unfurnisht of men and armes, and neer about

break of day beset the house of one Mr. *Ram*, a very godly and faithfull Minister of that Town, where they also took Mr. *John Harington*, a religious gent. of the same town, together with one Mr. *Horn*, and Mr. *Slater*, a gentleman of above sixtie years of age. Now the reason of their rage to Mr. *Ram* the Minister was (as they at least, pretended) for a letter that he had written in *January* before to the Inhabitants of *Crowland*, not to stand out against the Parliament; and now also in the time of these Gentlemens imprisonment; their malicious adversaries quarrelled much with them for praying together in their chamber, which they forbad them any more to do, and threatned to take the Bible from them, saying to them, that twas not for traitors to have or read the Bible; and by no means would permit them pen, ink, or paper.

“Now they having thus continued about three weeks, most unworthily used in prison, the honest inhabitants of *Spalding* assembled themselves into a prettie competent strength, and so advanced to *Crowland* to relieve and redeeme (if it might be) these worthie gentlemen out of their harsh imprisonment. Whereupon about 8 of the clock that first night all these prisoners were carried down to the bulwark upon the *North* side of the Town, and were there kept almost all that night among the rude Souldiers, but their friends forces not falling on, that night, they were all carried back about midnight or later, into an Alehouse till the next day, and then carried to prison again; but immediately after *Spalding* forces approaching neer the Town, they were all brought forth again and carried to that part of the Town where the first onset was given, being all of them fast pinioned and forced to stand in an open place, where the Cannons might and did play upon them. But before the assault, a Drummer was sent to summon the Town, at whom they shot divers times before his entrance, and then took and detained him prisoner, contrary to the Law of armes, till the Town was taken. Shortly after this, all these gentlemen were set upon the top of the brest-works, where they

stood at least three houres, their dear and faithfull friends that came to relieve them shooting fiercely at them a great part of all that time before they knew who they were: yea Captain *Harrington* took one of his souldiers Muskets, charging it with pistoll-pouder, and himselfe made three shots at his own father, not knowing who he was, and all the rest of *Spalding* souldiers on that side (supposing they had been *Croylanders*, and that they stood there to out-beard and brave them) shot at them very angrily, till at last they perceiving who they were, quickly left firing on them, and began to play more to the right hand; Whither, instantly, Master *Ram*, and Serjeant *Horn*, were by the *Croylanders* most wickedly removed, which also their friends again discerning, they held their hands and forbare to shoot, so that little could be done on that side of the Town, that day; for, their works also were very strong, and well lined with Muskettiers, and these also were backt with a weapon called *Hassock-knives*, long Sythes, and such like Fennish weapons. But as the furie of the fight abated in these parts; so it increased on the *North side*, whither, presently, Mr. *Ram*, and Mr. *Horn* were posted, and there also set upon the bulwarks, for the *Spalding* forces to play on them with their shot, who indeed plyed it very fiercely both with great and small shot for a great while together, they verily supposing that Mr. *Ram* had been the vapouring Priest or Parson of the Town (one Mr. *Styles*, a most irreligious roarer and railer against all goodnesse, and a most audacious and speciall personall actor in this rebellion) and many of their dear friends (as they acknowledged afterward, when the Town was taken) shot many times and very vehemently and eagerly at their godly Minister and Mr. *Horn* who stood by him; but the Lord of hosts, that numbers the hairs of his childrens heads, and preserved the *three Children of Israel* in the midst of the fierie furnace; so guided all the bullets still that all the multitudes of shot which continually, and most fiercely, and frequently flew about their eares, and many of

them within half Musket shot of them, yet not one bullet small or great had power to touch any of them. And was not then that old adagie or Christian proverbe, here, most clearly verified. *They are well kept whom the Lord doth keep ?* O who then is so unwise that would not most willingly commit his soul into the hands of such a mercifull Creator and Redeemer, who is so able and willing to save that which is committed to him ? But to go on. After these gentlemen had thus continued three houres or more on this *North side* of the works, *Spalding* forces began to retreat there also, and then the gentlemen were taken down and guarded to their prison, together with Mr. *Harrington* and the two other prisoners which had continued all that while in the *West works* ; but the Forces on the *North side* beginning again to fire on the *Croylanders*, they were carried back again and set on the works as aforesaid : whereupon *Spalding* forces most honestly retreated again on both sides. Now this the wicked *Crowlanders* took as a victorie, and one *Jackson*, a *Balaams* priest, in the town, a right son of *Belial*, brought the *Croylanders* to Church, and read certain Collects (out of his Idol the Service Book) by way of thanksgiving for their good successe, as they impiously called it ; and spending the rest of the day and night following, in drinking, revelling and railing on the Parliament.

“ Not long after *Spalding* forces assaulted the Town againe in three severall parts thereof at once ; Collonel Sir *Miles Hobert*, Collonel Sir *Anthonie Irbie*, and valiant and active Collonel *Cromwell* being now come to their assistance, who all being now neer the Town, good Mr. *Ram* was again called for, and brought out of his lodging, and carried with all speed to the *North* bulwark, and there being very straitly pinnion'd, was most inhumanely laid within the work on the wet ground, where he lay for the space of five houres, often entreating to be set up on the bulwark, by reason of the extreme numbnesse of his limbs, and extraordinarie wearinesse with lying so in that posture and condition, but they would not suffer it. In

brief, within two or three dayes after, not sooner, the besiegers so plyed the work, that the *Spalding* forces, with the aid of those brave Commanders took the Town, but some of the chief actors in those pre-mentioned villanies, got away, divers were taken in the Town and clapt up in prison at *Colchester, Ipswich* & other prisons. This much I have thus particularly related of the falling of this Town, principally to let the Reader see both the horrible villany & more than *Turkish* crueltie of our ordinarie atheisticall and ignorant *Protestants at large*, whose greatest Divinitie is in their Dunsical *Service-book*, and in their most loose and lazie hedge-priests frothie (preaching shall I call it, nay rather prating, or babling, and) rayling against Gods choisest children, and the precious power of godlinesse; As also, and above all, to set forth the glorious praise of our still *wonder-working God* in so admirable and almost incredible deliverances of his people from such clearly evident and eminent danger and distresse, which men who have quite put off even meer humanity, do divellishly and desperately endeavour to bring his Saints and servants into."

It would be interesting to compare this account with any that could be found written from the Royalist point of view. From a paper read by the late Canon Moore at a Meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Architectural Society in 1861, we find that the Parliamentary forces were commanded by Colonel Edward King, of Ashby, on Lincoln Heath, the High Sheriff for the county; the very man who afterwards proposed in parliament the restoration of Charles II. Ed.

**762.—The Green Shag.**—I have in my possession a stuffed specimen of the Green Shag, or Cormorant, which I believe to be the only one ever shot in this county. It was shot by the landlord of a public house at Isleham Bank, the bird being seen on the river Lark, just opposite the house. Once or twice Cormorant have been shot; but I have never heard of a green one before this in Cambridgeshire.

Ely.

CHAS. C. AMBROSE.



**768.—Yaxley Market.**—Yaxley market is ancient. In 14 Edw. I. the Abbot of Thorney was summoned by writ of *Quo Warranto* to show by what right he held a market and a fair within his Manor of Jakeslee. The Abbot appeared by his attorney and pleaded in answer to the writ his right to hold a market with soke and sake and toll on Thursday in each week by virtue of a charter of King William the Conqueror of England: and he produced the charter. To warrant the holding of a fair the Abbot produced the charter of King Henry III.\* for a fair of five days' duration on Saturday after Ascension Day, and the four days next following; and by the same charter a gaol was granted:—

“The King grants to the Abbot of Thorney a gaol in Jakel to detain prisoners who are arrested within the hundred of Normancross† which the Abbot holds at fee farm.”

Perhaps the fair looked like a market to the jealous Abbot of Burgh, who was fined 2 marks in 1229 for falsely presenting the Abbot of Thorney at Huntingdon Assizes for holding a market at Yaxley on a Monday, and for taking toll thereat, to the disturbance of the market at Burgh.

It is clear enough that the Abbot of Thorney had a right to hold a market at Yaxley on Thursday. There may have been no need to hold a market, or after the surrender of the Abbey to the Crown the right to hold the market may have been withheld or severed when the Manor was regranted; for in 1562 the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough commenced a suit in Chancery against the Inhabitants of Yaxley; to wit Will: Conny, gent., John Palmer, Richard Carrier, Thomas Clopwell, yeoman, Richarde Warke, John Barforde, Will. Thorpe, Ric: Pierson, Thomas Harte, Edmond Pykalyne, Will. Watts, and John Warwick, husbandmen, concerning the weekly market. The suit was referred to Sir Walter Mildmay

\* C.R. 10 Henry III. A.D. 1226.

† William II. granted the hundred of Normancross at a fee farm of 100 solidi to the Abbot and Convent of Thorney, so that no sheriff of the county should hold his turn or receive presentments there. The Abbot was to take fines for assize of bread and ale, and other fines, except fines for default of freemen. This grant was confirmed by Edw. I. in 1204.

and others, who in 1562 awarded that "the inhabitants of Yaxley were to have one market for all manner of merchandize and victualls to be brought by any to be holden and kept weekly on the Thursday yearly between the feasts of the Purification of Our Lady and Pentecoste."\*

The cattle would have to come to Peterborough ; nevertheless the men of the City were trying to overthrow Yaxley market in 1604. In that year Anthony Forest, J.P., of Morbourn, wrote to Lord Cecil to support the Yaxley men and to grant the bailiwick to William Carryer, the late bailiff, instead of to Peter Proby.†

The market lingered. Facility of access to Peterborough has made it useless to hold it now. L.G.

**764.—Star Names.**—Can any correspondent supply local names for the different constellations ? One would suppose there must be many ; and it would be worth while to put them on record. In my own parish diligent enquiry has only resulted in my finding three. The Great Bear is known (though this of course is not strictly local) as the Waggon and Horses : the familiar Charles's Wain seems unknown. I have frequently heard the Pleiades called the Butcher's Cleaver : this is given in Baker's *Northamptonshire Glossary*. One man told me the Milky Way was often called The Great North Road. This name I have not found elsewhere. It seems strange if there is no name for such a constellation as Orion. Ed.

**765.—Aliens in the Fens.**—The influx of the French at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685 did not add materially to the number of foreigners in the Fens. The Huguenots, chiefly artizans, settled where work was to be found. There were thousands in London. There was a

\* 5 Ellis. Hill, fo. 43, b.

† Dom. Jac. I., c. 96. Peter Proby, Lord Mayor of London, 1622-3, Knighted in 1633, "when the Recorder made so fulsome a speech that it surfeited the King." Sir Peter's grandson, Thomas Proby, of Hilton, was created a baronet in 1662.

colony at Canterbury, where they found a congregation of Walloons that had been established in the reign of Edward VI. The Royal Lutestring Company employed 5000 in weaving silks at Spitalfields. There was a branch of the Company at Ipswich, and to this source many of the French names found in Suffolk may be traced: and Dutch and Walloon congregations had been established at Norwich since 1568.\* In 1681 R. Bonhomme, a French merchant, was induced to transfer his linen drapery business to England. In that year the Secretary of State was informed, by H. Saville from Paris, that "M. Bonhomme will be able to give you some lights as to the bringing the manufacture of sail cloth into England, a project the Government are so fond of." At that time the English fleet was dependent on the weavers of Brittany and Normandy for canvas.† Bonhomme brought his looms and his weavers to Ipswich, and made sail-cloth for the fleet. The bulk of the silk weavers came to Ipswich somewhat later. On 28th Nov., 1693, the Corporation resolved:—"That 50 families of French Protestants who make lutestring shall be admitted to this town and they shall have 20<sup>s</sup> each family and their charges of coming to the town shall be found by the Town and they shall have a church minded for them and 20<sup>s</sup> a year for their minister for 2 years and they shall not be rated or put into any office for seven years; and that Mr. Snelling shall go to London to treat with the French-

\* The Walloons, a French speaking people of the Netherlands, were settled first at Sandwich, removed thence to Norwich in 1568. They restored the manufacture of wool fabrics, which was lost to Norwich by the ravages of the Black Death in 1348-9.

The Register, of the Walloon Church, which dates from 1596, is entitled:—

Ce lijure commenche le 23 de Juyn l'an de grace 1596 et pour le batem des enfans de legilijge Walloughe de la ville de Nordvijt regidijgiant en icelle ville et alors en ce tems la mestre Thomas Lajert en maijeur de la ville.

The Walloon congregation was dissolved in 1833. The Church estate, by a decree in Chancery made in 1839, is devoted:—

1. To keeping the church of Little St. Mary's, Norwich, and the monuments and tombs in repair.
2. To apply £50 per ann. in apprenticing out poor boys of Norwich, giving a preference to children of French Protestant origin.
3. The balance to be paid to the French Protestant Hospital in London, conditionally that at least two inmates should always be received and kept there on the nomination of the trustees of the Norwich French Church Charity, who should give preference in such nomination to descendants of French Protestants who or whose families were or had been resident in Norwich.

† In 1699 our imports from France exceeded £1,000,000; of this, buckram, dowels, and canvas amounted to £463,000.

men about this business." The Royal Lutestring Company was chartered; so the reports of their Secretary, Mr. H. Reneu, are found among the Treasury Papers, with the names of the workmen employed at Ipswich.

Names are not a safe index of the origin of a family. There were families in France of Scotch origin, whose ancestors had been in the Scotch body guard of the King of France, and these came to England. A valuable work, relating to these families, is *Les Ecossois en France* by Francisque Michel, published by Trubner & Co. in 1862. During the Commonwealth the Council of State, in 1653, resolved that "the Prisoners Committee do consider how the Dutch prisoners taken in the last fight may be disposed of. That the Committee do agree with the Company of Adventurers in the Fens for taking off as many Dutch prisoners as they require to use in their work paying them as ordinary labourers."

And by the Act of 1654, for the preservation of the works of the Great Level of the Fens, all purchasers, being foreign protestants, of fen lands were to be accounted free denizens of the Commonwealth. Who can doubt that many of these foreigners decided for England just as some of the French prisoners at Norman Cross did early in this century? To the latter source families at Stilton named Habart and Teslof may be traced, and Nurse,\* a French subaltern, married an attorney's daughter and settled there.

The origin of many Walloon families in the Fens may be traced to Thorney. Jamblin originates from M. Jembelin, a minister of the Walloon community at Thorney. There was another minister, Jean de M. Jemblin, of St. Pierre sur Dives, who on 27th March, 1685, received from "S.M. Louis XIV permission de se retirer en Angleterre." He was the author of an essay "on the validity of Geneva Orders," and pastor at St. Clement, Jersey, where he died in 1712. The Anglican Church insisted on Episcopal Ordination. Dean Whittingham

\* There is also a Huguenot family of this name.

of Durham, a fugitive reformer in Queen Mary's reign, who held Geneva Orders, was in "a parlous state." His death saved him from deprivation. Then foreign protestants looked askance at Roman Orders. In 1646 the Colloque refused to recognize the Congregation at Whittlesey, and their pastor, Du Perrier, on the ground that it was not sanctioned by the Crown as was that of Thorney.\* The minute of the Colloque is this :—

Le sieur du Perrier soi disant pasteur, ayant présenté lettres de la part des frères de Whittlesey aux fins d'être incorporés en nos Eglises, la Campagnie ne voulant entrer pour le present en l'examen de la personne et ordination du dit sieur, a répondu qu'elle ne pouvait accorder cette demande jusqu'à ce que l'autorité suprême lui donne fondement.

Du Perrier was in Roman Orders. However, in 1656, the Cœtus without insisting on re-ordination received him into the Association "pour donner plus d'autorité a ses labours et calmer les scrupules des fideles de Southampton," where he officiated as pastor after the Whittlesey congregation was united to Thorney. The Church of England did her best to aid the distressed French ministers, but the English tongue is not acquired all at once: so they had to be stowed away in out of the way parishes. Mr. Pujolas† found his way to Parson Drove. His stipend must have been slender. In 1696 the Commissioners for Pious Uses held an inquiry at Wisbech touching the rents and profits of lands given and appointed for the maintenance of the Chaplain. The jurors found "that several writings relating to the Chapel of Parson Drove are withheld by the late chapel-wardens; that the profits of a message

\* By the rule of the Walloon Churches in England, the Bishop of the Diocese, as Superintendent, was informed of the choice of a minister by the congregation, and his approval was necessary before formal appointment. For the appointment of minister of the French Church at Soho, London, the licence of the Crown is necessary. This is the only foreign Protestant Church in London which has retained the Presbyterian discipline.

† T.P. xxxv. 7. Liste des Ministres François necessiteux réfugiés en Angleterre 1696. Thos. Henry Pujolas, 32 ans. The Register dates from 1696. Some of the inhabitants bore Flemish names, e.g., Leehoy, Couard, Delahay. Moses Pujolas, naturalized in 1696, was the first secretary of the General Assembly of the French Churches which were established in London in 1730 "pour la paix et pour l'ordre dans notre refuge." D. O. Agnew, in *Protestant Exiles from France* (3rd Ed. 1886), says that Mr. P. was minister of the French Church of Parson Drove, and gives the year of his death 1749. On 6 Dec., 1691, in Le Quarré French Church, Little Dean Street, London, Henry Pujolas, ck., was married to Anne Elcher. In 1704, Ensign Denys Pujolas of the Foot Guards was wounded at the battle of Schellenberg. In 1734 he was Lieut. Colonel in Sir Charles Hotham's regiment. Henry Pujolas, Esq., the son of John Pujolas, held the office of Richmond Herald. He died in 1784, aged 31.

and divers parcels of land in Leverington and Parson Drove, containing 141 acres, and 11 acres of marsh land have been held and enjoyed and disposed of by the chapel-wardens of the said hamlet; and that there has been misemployment in 1690 by Robert Ball chapel warden who received rents £64. 10<sup>s</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>, and accounted only for 20<sup>s</sup> paid to the minister; and a like misemployment in 1692, by Jeremiah England and Thos. Sweetland; and in 1693 by John Roper and John Pales."

Probably Mr. Pujolas' income was augmented by a sum from the Royal Bounty. In 1717 there is an entry of a grant to H. Pujolas Jun<sup>r</sup> 53, wife and 9 children. £18.\*

L.G.

766.—**Fauna of the Fens (645).**—Mr. S. H. Miller, in a recent number of *Fenland Notes and Queries*, asks whether the Edible Frog (*Rana esculenta*) has been recently discovered in the Fens. I have lately made several enquiries respecting this reptile, and from what I can gather it is some years since the last of the species was found in East Anglia. Mr. Miller may be interested in the following extract from Vol. III. of the Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society. Mr. T. Southwell there states:—"Mr. G. A. Boulenger has examined specimens of the Cambridgeshire, and recent Norfolk specimens. To his surprise he finds they all belong to a very distinct race peculiar to Italy, and not the typical form of Central Europe." Mr. Boulenger, himself, says:—"It is clear to me therefore that all the specimens, the capture of which has hitherto been recorded, whether from Cambridgeshire or Norfolk, are not the descendants of those imported by Mr. Berney, but are of Italian origin. By whom, and when, they were introduced I cannot venture to suggest." Mr. Southwell thinks it possible they may have been introduced from Italy by Roman monks, or that Mr. Berney accidentally imported Italian frogs which had found their way into the north of France. Mr. J. H. Gurney has not heard

\* T.P. cxxi. 47.

of any edible frogs being found in Norfolk since 1876, when Professor Alfred Newton discovered a colony of them at Stow Bedon; and Mrs. Berney, of Morton Hall, believes the descendants of those imported by Mr. George Berney are quite extinct.

With regard to the Natterjack Toad (*Bufo calamita*), I found a fair number of natterjacks last year in the marsh dykes at Burgh Castle, not far from Breydon Water. The curious trilling they kept up as they lay among the water-weeds made the air seem quite tremulous. Natterjacks are local, but not uncommon in Eastern England.

Black Rat (*Mus rattus*). On March 8th, 1899, I received from Mr. Arthur Patterson, of Great Yarmouth, a fine buck black rat, captured that morning in one of the Yarmouth "rows." Mr. Patterson tells me that the species is still fairly plentiful in Yarmouth. He has also found there a sub-species, *Mus Alexandrinus*.

Lowestoft.

WILLIAM A. DUTT.

**767.—Lincolnshire Fens in 1696.**—In the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1696, Vol. xix, is a paper by Christopher Merret, Surveyor of the Port of Boston, "On several Observables in Lincolnshire, not noticed by Camden, or any other Author." The greater part of it describes the Fens at that period, and will be found interesting. Mr. Merret treats only of that portion of the county that lies towards the sea, from Grimsby to Crowland; and divides this into three: (1) the Marshes, to which he devotes a few lines only; (2) the Fens; (3) the Pastures. We give his description of the last two, at full.

2. Fens. The east begins about Wainfleet, and ends at Sibsey, yielding great plenty and variety of fowl and fish, particularly duck, mallard, and teal, which are usually taken in decoys and sent to London. About Midsummer, at moulting time, several persons go in small boats among the reeds, and knock them down with long poles, being then unable to swim or fly. A little before Michaelmas, great flights arrive in these parts, which soon grow fat; when the decoys are frozen, the fowl resort to the sea for their food. As for fish there are great quantities, especially pike, some being of a very large size; the water is deep in some places, 8, 9, or

10 feet. Through these fens run great cuts or drains, which abound in fish; there are also vast numbers of geese, which live on the grass, but taste both rank and muddy; but when fed with corn are as good as others. But they make an amends in the vast quantities of feathers and quills they yield; the owners pluck them 4, 5, nay some 6 times a-year for their feathers, and thrice for their quills. Some persons have 1000, and some more; they are kept at little or no charge, except in deep snowy weather, when they feed them with corn. Between Spalding and Crowland grow large crops of oats, and also large quantities of *rapum sylvestre*, called cole-seed, of which they make oil, by breaking it between two large black marble stones of near a ton weight, in oil mills, some go with sails, and serve also to drain the fens, and are called engines, and discharge great quantities of water. After pressing out the oil, the remainder is called cakes, with which they heat ovens, and burn for fuel; they are exported to Holland, where the cows are fed with them.

3. Pasture grounds, lying between the sea and the fens, feeding a great number of fat oxen and sheep, which are weekly sent to London in droves.

Near the fens stands Boston, remarkable for the church, steeple, and river. The church is very lofty, and ceiled with Irish oak, neatly wrought. The body is 100 feet wide; the steeple is a tower of 285 feet high, octangular towards the top; of curious carved stone work, standing not above 12 yards from the river Witham; it is only 32 feet wide, and 40 in length; at each angle is a large butteress.

Our marshes doubtless have been gained from the sea, there being near them, at Wainfleet, such banks and salt-hills as Camden mentions at Sutterton. They are fenced chiefly by large dykes, filled with fresh water in the winter, and salt in the summer. The sea loses and gains considerably in this country; for, about Holbeach, Sutton, and Wainfleet, great marshes have lately been taken in; but northward of Ingold-Meals, it has lost much more. I have seen the roots of trees that have been dug out of the sands at low water, near a mile from the shore, which I take to belong to fir, the bark smelling aromatic, and somewhat like that of fir-timber in piles that have been long in salt water, but not near so strong; and at Mawplethorpe they are often in danger of being drowned, their defence being only banks or hills of a small sand, called meals, the former church having been destroyed by it.

The country people gather up the dung of oxen and cows, which they temper with water, and spread on the ground about 5 inches thick; then cut it out in oblong pieces of about a foot, and call them dithes, which they use for fuel; in some places they make walls of them for fencing. They also gather up hogs' dung, and steep it in water, and having well stirred it, strain it, and so use it to wash clothes, which, when bleached in the summer, will become white and sweet. Besides the fowl mentioned by Mr. Camden, of mud-suckers, which are esteemed the best, we have ruff and reve, the former being the cock, the other the hen, in Latin aves pugnaces, because they are continually fighting; rarely two in a hundred are of a colour, they are usually mewed.

As to fish, here are turbot in great plenty, called brets, and taken in nets trailed on the ground by two horses; here are also plenty of large seals, taken in troul-nets, trailing by smacks under sail; also plenty of skate, which are taken by hooks lying near the shore; as also cod and thornback.

As to insects, gnats, here midges, are in some places very troublesome; some have silk-nets to secure them from being bitten, and disturbing their rest. Frogs are very numerous, called Holland waites. As for vegetables, great quantities of hemp are sown in several places, of which ropes are made, both for sea and land; the female is called femble; as also flax; the



seed is broken and oil made of it, as of cole-seed. The salt marshes yield a great deal of kali geniculacum, which, when pickled, is their samphire. Carum grows plentifully in the pastures; the seed they call saxifrage, which they gather and send to London.

These parts afford but little variety of metals, gums, or stones. Amber is picked up sometimes on the sands in pretty large pieces. The astroites, found at Belvoir castle, will not only move in vinegar, but also dulcify it. Here coals are charred, and then called coke, with which they dry malt, giving little colour or taste to the drink made of it.

Agnes, here called Holland bailiffs, are very rife, few strangers escaping them. As also, that at Spalding there is lately a vast tunnel, laid under the river Welland, carrying water under it for draining the fens. And that between Donnington and Brig-end, which is about 3 miles, a good causeway is carried through the fen, having in several places bridges for the water to run under them, whence the name of Brig-end causeway. It is after great rains under water, and passengers take guides, the bridges directing them; it was built at the county's charge, who also purchased near 100 pounds per annum to maintain it. A great many hills are thrown up, called barrows, supposed to be sepulchral monuments.

Some of these words and expressions are quite new to me. Meals, for shelves or banks of sand, is given by Bailey as applicable to Norway. What are in the above called dithes, are known in North Northamptonshire as cassans, pronounced as rhyming with raisins. Can there be some strange mistake as to seals being common in the Fens two hundred years ago; or is there any other evidence of the fact? ED.

**768.—Drainage of Soham Mere.**—I am wishing to ascertain the exact date and particulars of the draining of Soham Mere. Cary's Map of Cambridgeshire, 1787, represents it undrained. The first issue of the Ordnance Survey, one-inch scale, 1824, represents it drained. In Col. John Armstrong's *History of the Ancient and Present State of the Navigation of the Port of King's Lynn and of Cambridgeshire*, p. 82, I find this :—

Downham Eea was of no use till 1666. Then the 24 Foot Drain was let into it, which was cut from Soam Meere for draining it by tunnels under the three rivers aforesaid.

There must be in existence full particulars of the draining of the Mere; I shall be glad to be referred to these, if in print; or to elicit from some correspondent of *Fenland Notes and Queries* some account of it.

W. BREE,

Allesley Rectory, Coventry.

Archdeacon of Coventry.

**769.—Fen Provincialisms (746).**

**TRAY.**—A low wooden hurdle; used as a temporary fence when sheep are being fed in turnip fields, &c.

**TRENCHER-MAN.**—A good trencher-man was one who “played a good knife and fork.” This phrase has become general; but the wooden trenchers, as well as the pewter plates which amused our grandfathers, have long disappeared. At market ordinaries, while waiting for dinner, it was a favourite way of beguiling the time to balance pewter plates on the tine of the steel fork, and make them spin round; there were frequent wagers as to who could make his plate spin the longest.

**TRICK.**—Connection. “I’ll have no trick or truck with him.”

**TROTTLERS.**—Dung of sheep, hares, or rabbits, when in small pellets.

**TROUSE.**—Rubbish.

**TRUCKLE-BED.**—A phrase survives in the Fens referring to this obsolete article of furniture, in “Truckle-bed fellows.” This is used in the sense of a servile hanger-on, a toady.

**TUMBRIL.**—A round crib, made of willows well woven round stakes, about a foot apart, for holding hay or straw in the crew yards. They were easily turned on the side and rolled from place to place as required. Hence probably the name.

**THUNDERBOLT.**—Common name for the belemnites common in fen gravels.

**TURF.**—In Ramsey Fen called casses. Peat cut and dried for burning. There were Turf Lots in nearly every parish, allotments of land set apart for turf cutting. The location of one is preserved by the “Turf Fen” signal-box, between Wryde and Murrow. At Whittlesey and Eye are parts known as “The Turves.” The turf hovel was an important building on the farm, as can be seen in old fire insurance policies. The word is Dutch.

**TUSOCK.**—A tuft of coarse, long grass. A hassock.

**TWANG.**—A sharp, acute pain. Burns has it as applied to the toothache.

A curse on that envenomed stang  
Which shoots my tender gum along,  
And through my lugs gives many a twang.

Perhaps the same word as twinge.

**TWANK.**—The smart fall of the carpenter's chalk line on a board for sawing. "Twank the line, please."

**TWITCH.**—Couch grass, *Triticum repens*. Also an appliance for holding a vicious horse by the nose.

**TWIZZLE.**—To twist, bend as you like. "The poor fellow has no will of his own, George just twizzles him round his finger as he likes."

**UNDERBECK.**—The tub into which the wort ran from the mash tub.

**UNDERLOUT.**—Said of an inferior servant. Of cattle in the crew yard the weakest is called the underlout.

**UNDERNEAN.**—Underneath.

**UNGAIN.**—Ungainly, awkward, inconvenient. "The field lies very ungain for me." "My horse is an ungain beast."  
A.S. ungean.

**UNPOSSIBLE.**—Impossible.

**UNNECK.**—To unfasten, unlatch.

**UPHOLD.**—Maintain, support, in a physical sense. "Three shillings a week isn't much to uphold a badly person." Also in a grammatical sense, of an argument, "I'll uphold it for any amount."

**UP TO DICK.**—Up to the mark. In old records dica is a tally for accounts. Hence a shrewd man of the world is said to be "up to dick."

**USER.**—A profitable animal. "That cow's a good user."

**UVVERS.**—Sometimes huvvers, or huvverings. The grass mown from the dike sides, between the crop and the fence.

**VARTELS.**—The part of the hinge of a gate which clasps the head.

**VENOM.**—Sometimes vemon. Used as a verb, speaking of the poisonous quality of a plant, "It will venom you if you're not careful."  
S. EGAR.

**770.—The Liberty of Nassaburg during the Commonwealth.**—After the King's death the Parliament ordained that all justices of peace, of gaol delivery and of *oyer and terminer*, and all sheriffs should continue to act in their office until new commissions were issued, so the gaol deliveries of the Liberty of Nassaburg would be regularly held and the calendars duly preserved by the Clerk of Peace. These records would afford some insight into the state of society during the Commonwealth. The "Troubles" would yield a heavy calendar, and the records would be in English. The gaol deliveries held during the times of the Abbots are duly entered on the Abbey registers with big letters in the margin to denote the findings of the juries; if guilty, (S for *suspensus*,) the prisoner was hanged, and they hanged for any felony: if not guilty, (Q for *quietus*,) the prisoner was discharged. The lord of the Liberty would be entitled to the goods and chattels of felons who were hanged; but a return of the fines for minor offences was made by the justices to the Council of State, in pursuance of an Ordinance as to their appropriation.

The document here printed, found with the Miscellaneous Records of the Queen's Remembrancer, is the only Liberty record to be met with among the Public Records. It is mutilated and in part illegible.

Borow of St. Peter      Extracts of the ffynes pones [penalties] and Am'cea-  
als Nassaburg      ments at the publike sessions of the peace and genrall  
in com. Northton.      gaol delivery holden for the Libertie of (Peterborough)  
                                 the nyneteenth day of January the yeare of O'

Lord 1657 as followeth:      l<sup>r</sup>. a. d.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Robert Bate of Peterborow for washing hides of . . . . . |     |
| in the comon shore or drayne . . . . . Bour Berry and    |     |
| Swanspoole . . . . .                                     | 3 4 |
| . . . . . of the same for the like . . . . .             | 3 4 |
| Barnaby Audlin of the same for the like . . . . .        | 3 4 |
| Jacob Hall of the same for the like . . . . .            | 3 4 |
| Henry Deacon . . . . .                                   | 6   |
| . . . . . Sympson of Peterborow not appearing upon his   |     |
| recognzance for fellony of Richard Sympson his . . . . . |     |

Extracts of the ffynes pones and Am'ceaments at the &c  
holden the seaven twentieth daye of Aprill the yeare of O'  
Lord 1658 as followeth:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Robert Cox of Eyebury not appearing to serve upon the                 |       |
| grand jury as he was sumoned . . . . .                                | 1 0 0 |
| Will <sup>m</sup> P . . . . . of Gunthorpe for shooting in a gunn ... | 3 4   |

|  | P.   | s. | d. |
|--|------|----|----|
| William Parker of Paston for the like.....   | 3    | 4  |    |
| Edward Bingham of Peterborow for the like.....   | 3    | 4  |    |
| <b>Extract of the fynes pones &amp;c.</b>  |      |    |    |
| holden the seven and twentieth day of July in the years of<br>of Lord 1658 as followeth.   |      |    |    |
| John Cooper of fleet in the county of Lincoln for not<br>appearing (and presenting) of Robert Ashley for felony<br>according to his recognizance ..... | 40   | 0  | 0  |
| John Hainsworth of Benton for not appearing being<br>constable .....   | 10   | 0  |    |
| John (Waller) constable of Ashton for the like .....   | 10   | 0  |    |
| <b>Extract of the fynes &amp;c.</b>  |      |    |    |
| holden the fowerteenth day of October in the years of of Lord<br>1658 as followeth.  |      |    |    |
| Of Moses Barnes of Werrington for not keeping his fences<br>betwene the field and comon.....   | 10   | 0  |    |
| William Pryor of the same for the like .....   | 10   |    |    |
| John Stiles of Benton gent for not appearing according to<br>sumons to serve on the grand jury .....   | 10   | 0  |    |
| <b>Extract of &amp;c &amp;c.</b>   |      |    |    |
| holden the eighteenth day of January 1658 as followeth   |      |    |    |
| Thomas Sharpe and George (Henson) constables of<br>Grantham for not appearing .....  | 3    | 4  |    |
| John Papely of Ailesworth for . . . . . tipling in his<br>house . . . . . all tymes of the night.....  | 2    | 6  |    |
| John . . . . . of the same for selling beere and Ale<br>without licence.....   | 1    | 0  | 0  |
| Richard . . . . lton of Longthorpe for refusing to lodge<br>paseengers and for selling Ale contrary to the statute...                                  | 3    | 4  |    |
| <b>Extract of the fynes &amp;c</b>   |      |    |    |
| holden the twelveth day of April 1659 as followeth.  |      |    |    |
| Walter (Gilbert) constable of Gunthorpe for not ap-<br>pearing .....   | 6    | 8  |    |
| Henricus Tomson of Werrington for ye like .....  |      |    |    |
| Robert (Nunton) of Walton .....  |      |    |    |
|  | L.G. |    |    |

771.—*De la Pryme* (714).—There are three papers on scientific subjects by the Rev. Abraham de la Pryme, printed in the *Philosophical Transactions*, Vols. xxii and xxiii, for the years 1700—1702. The subjects are these:—

- Concerning some Roman Antiquities in Lincolnshire.
- On the Fossil Shells and Fishes in Lincolnshire.
- Concerning Trees found under Ground in Hatfield Chace.
- Extracts of two Letters from the Rev. Abraham de la Pryme, F.R.S. concerning the Subterranean Trees at Hatfield Chace, the Bitings of Mad Dogs, &c.
- Experiments and Observations concerning Vegetation.

The writer lived in Yorkshire: so all his Lincolnshire observations refer to the northern part of the county; and I do not find in these papers any note or illustration belonging to the Fenland district.

G.C.C.

**772.—Whittlesey Note-Books, 1780-1798.** — In two memorandum books of the end of the last century, written by John Lamb, of Whittlesey, farmer and miller, are many entries of interest. By the kindness of Dr. Newman, of Stamford, the loan of the books has been obtained with the object of extracting some of the most curious and interesting items. These extracts have been arranged in subjects: and the instalment given now bears upon the topography of the parish and district.

The spelling of the writer is not retained, except in a few instances. He seems to have been quite uncertain in his spelling; and the same word is sometimes spelt differently in the same sentence. There seems no object in carefully printing simple mistakes, such as whould, whent, verry, pepole (people), new (knew), sulice (sluice), cavlary (cavalry), and the like. The name of the parish is generally, but not always, spelt Whittlesea. Mixed with the notes are sundry recipes and prescriptions, and a few moral sentiments.

1787 The Bridge at Bodger finished. Thos. Griffin the first that paid toll for a drove, which was in March.

The floating bridge laid down at the Dog in Doublet.

1788 28 May. The gravel began to be taken up, and my sheep were stopped by them taking the floating bridge away.

29 May. William Plumer going for two sheep that were left at Mr. Philip's in Portland, he was stopped and obliged to go by Pauls Gravel for the gravel being taken away from the Dog and Doublet.

29 May. Mr. Thos. Charrinton was stopped with his "Shay" for an hour before he could get over the gravel being taken away at the Dog in Doublet: and he paid 6d. for coming over the floating bridge.

1788 The six posts set down at the Stamp Gravel by John Lamb, which went to the Governors several times before they would set them down.

The Governors would\* to have taken in that piece of drove next the Town Fifty at this end next the Stamp Gravel, and had dyked it out to the river, and set down a gate, and would\* to have the road through the Town Fifty against the Long Drove to go down the Wash; but Mr. John Smith sued them and made them take their gate and post away, and pay the cost of suit.

1791 The great law suit between Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Stonea concerning a road through the croft by Paul Carter's house; which was first consented to have a jury called by Mr. Henry Madwell, and when he called twenty four such men as he thought proper, they gave it for Mrs. Wright to have a road through the croft. Mrs. Stonea

\* Willed, resolved.

would not be set down by them, but then caused a lawsuit, and it was given in favour of Mrs. Wright at Cambridge: and then Mr. Thos. Ground was so reso . . . that he set down a stile against Paul Carter's house, and there was to be another trial at Cambridge on 10 August, but was agreed on Monday the 8th day, between Mr. Thomas Ground, Mrs. Stonea, Mr. Madwell, Mr. John Johnson, and Mrs. Wright, that she is to have a road through the croft for sixpence a year as long as she lives, and then to be a footpath: and as they have now taken the stile up next Paul Carter's, I think that the King's Leet, next time there is a Court, will not do right if they do not make them put the stile down where it should be. This law suit cost as is thought about six hundred pounds.

- 1792 17 Oct. Mr. Bellmey, Attorney, came from Wisbech to let Mr. Thos. Ground know that the road which he had made would not do without he could get a licence from the Lord of the Manor for making a fresh road: and if he did not make a gateway four foot where the road was by to-morrow, that he would have another action brought against him. So then Mr. Thos. Ground was very busy next morning in taking the stile up, and he made a gateway next Paul Carter's and Mrs. Stonea's croft.
- 1793 12 Feb. The bank broke against the Burnt House; and they were until the Monday after, 18 Feb., before they could make a stop of the water.  
Saturday, 2 [Feb. ?] in the night about 12 o'clock a great wind broke the new mill loose in Hundwod's ground, and "burnt her down."
- 1793 12 Sep. The new bridge over the river at the Dog and Doublet, began to drive the piles.  
24 Nov. Vine Dikerson came over the new bridge with the first drove of beast at the Dog and Doublet.
- 1795 Feb. After a frost for nine weeks it began to thaw on Sunday, 8 Feb.; and on Tuesday several people walked over to the North side on the ice; and 8 foot water in Delph on 11 Feb., and the South Bank broke.
- 1796 18 Aug. The tunnel at King's Delph Gravel laid down by the order of the Governors to run into Mr. Simon Smith's dyke, as the water always did run that way to serve King's Delph.
- 1796 4 Aug. The causey from Isaac Dobson's, against his dyke, leading to the Goars, begun taking up by the Order of the Overseers of the Highway, which had been a causey longer than any one can remember.
- 1796 The sluice doors put down by John Russell; called Green Sluice.
- 1796 29 Aug. The first meeting at the Falcon to get a turnpike road from Thorney to Ramsey by Whittlesey.
- 1796 Salt water as far up Bevil's River as Mr. James Aveling's house in Glasmore, the third house from Chapel Bridge to Ponds Bridge, which was never known before.
- 1797 17 Aug. At the meeting at March Mr. Thos. Ground and Mr. John Jonson said if the doors at Green's Sluice were not set according to law they were determined to go to law with the Commissioners; so they gave an order for the sluice doors to be set open; so they were set open 21 Aug.
- 1797 12 Dec. About half past five o'clock on Tuesday morning a fire broke out of Mr. Joseph Brig's barley stack in his yard next Mrs. Boon's, and burnt that and a wheat stack and bean stack: with a great help and the mercy of God Mr. Hurry's stacks were saved.

- 1797 By the order of Mr. George Maxwell, Steward for Lord Eardley, there was a dyke dug all the way on the drove against George Plumer's farm leading to Ramsey, and the earth cast upon the road; and on 3 May he set on men to cast the earth in the dyke and fill it up; and they got it done on Monday, 22 May. It cost about £50 getting out: what it cost putting in I cannot say, but I think there was a great mistake.
- 1798 30 July. The bank began to be made from Plumer's Bridge to Ponds Bridge by the order of the Ramsey people: Robt. Speechly laid the flag.

**773.—Whittlesey Assessment, 1712.**—The following is also copied from one of the note-books of John Lamb, from which extracts have been given in the preceding article.

A True Copy of the Rates Assessed On all Lands and Tenements Belonging to the Parishes of Whittlesey Made February: 24: 1712.

|  | At Pr. | Acres |
|--|--------|-------|
|  | £      | s d   |
| Far Northy and all the Half Severalls there at .....   | 3      | 6     |
| Willowhall Farm belonging to M <sup>r</sup> Deacons Trust and M <sup>r</sup> Dan <sup>l</sup> . Baley .....  | 8      | 0     |
| The Springs and Crowcroft and all the Adventures Land there and Down to Delph Dyke at .....  | 5      | 0     |
| Bassenhallmoore, The first Reach from Delph Dyke to a Straight Dyke leading from Thorneyfen Drain to the Green drove Between the Lands of John Johnson and the Lands of Jam <sup>s</sup> . Avling and from the abovesaid Green drove to the North Bank between the Lands Late M <sup>r</sup> Wisemans and the Lands belonging to the Town at ..... | 4      | 0     |
| The Middle Part of Bassenhallmoore from the abovesaid Straight Dyke to Battings Drain at .....   | 2      | 9     |
| All the Remaining Part of Bassenhallmoore from Battins Drain to North Lake at.....   | 1      | 6     |
| Wash Northey; All the Half Severalls there at .....  | 4      | 0     |
| Stonald Dole on the Northside of Mortons Leam in the Wash, at All the Wash Lands from Stonald Dole to the Droveaway Leading to Hemerly Gravel, at .....  | 6      | 6     |
| All the Remaining Part of that Wash to Delph Dyke, at.....   | 5      | 0     |
| and from Delph Dyke to the East side the Ten Acres called the Vintners Ten Acres, at.....  | 3      | 6     |
| And from the Said Vintners Ten Acres to Batesfen Dyke, at .....  | 1      | 10    |
| And from Batesfen Dyke to Battings Drain at .....  | 1      | 8     |
| And from Battings Drain Eastward to North Lake, at.....  | 6      |       |
| Stonald Dole Stonald Close and Great Lambs grass, at .....   | 8      | 6     |
| All the Gross Commons from Stonald Close to Ladye Dyke and Little Lambs grass, at .....  | 6      | 0     |
| Bassinghally; the Hill Close there at .....  | 10     | 0     |
| and Six Acres of Low Land on the East Side thereof, at.....  | 5      | 0     |
| The Murst and Bradley fen, at .....  | 8      | 0     |
| Fields End Close and Northy Gravel Close, at .....   | 8      | 0     |
| The field Lands; Every full Land In the Fields, at ....  | 4      | 10 0  |
| Every Half full Land In the Fields, at .....   | 2      | 5 0   |
| Every Acre in the Fields Arable Land at.....   | 3      | 6     |
| And Every Acre of High Land Meadow Half Several, at.....   | 4      | 6     |
| Every Corn Mill, at .....  | 2      | 5 0   |
| Every Acre Cottage, at.....  | 1      | 0 0   |



|  | At Pr. Acre |
|--|-------------|
|  | £ s d       |
| Every Half Acre Cottage, at .....  | 15 0        |
| The High Land Closes; Inhams End Close, and all the Lands<br>from Long Gravel Lane to the Pingle at .....  | 10 0        |
| The Gore Next to the Sixteen foot Drain at Pr Acre.....  | 8 0         |
| Kings Delph; The Tythegrass when kept in whole Several, at ...   | 5 0         |
| Doctor Wrights Land: when kept in whole Several; at .....  | 5 0         |
| Kings Delph: The whole Severals there being Decreed Runing<br>Comon <sup>r</sup> : at .....  | 5 0         |
| All the Half Severals in Kings Delph at .....  | 3 0         |
| Blackbush. All the: 100: Acres: Reach and Canters Doles with<br>a Straight Range to the Drove way at the: 100: Acres End, at   | 8 0         |
| The Second Reach in Blackbush from the Cross Drove to Ives's<br>Drove with a Straight Range to the Sixteenfoot Drain, at .....   | 6 3         |
| All the Remaining Part of Blackbush, at.....   | 5 0         |
| The Earl of Lincolns Lands Formaly called Underwoods Lands<br>The first Reach to the Sixteen Acres Holt, at.....   | 8 0         |
| The Second Reach from thence to Shepherds Drove with a<br>Straight Range to Barnaby Dyke: at .....   | 5 6         |
| The Third Reach from thence to the Holt at the South End of the<br>36 Acres with a Straight Range to Barnaby Dyke: at ..   | 4 6         |
| All the Remaining Part of that Land at .....   | 3 4         |
| Mr Kates Lands and Flagcroft to the Drove ways Leading to Mr<br>Cropleys Lands between the Rivers: at .....  | 5 6         |
| All the Remaining Part of Mr Kates and Cropleys Lands There at   | 4 6         |
| The Earl of Lincolns Lands Called the Steads: at.....  | 2 0         |
| Glassmoore The first Reach or Hove Next Bevills River from the<br>Lands called the Steads to Manistys Drove: at .....  | 2 0         |
| And from Manisty's Drove to the west side of Cropleys Lands at   | 2 6         |
| And from the Said West Side of Cropleys Lands, to the West<br>Side of a Farm Called Maxeys Farm, at .....  | 3 6         |
| And from the said west Side of Maxeys Farm, to the west Side<br>of Twenty Acres Late John Garners, at .....  | 1 9         |
| And from the west Side of the said Twenty Acres to Shaws<br>Dyke at .....  | 1 0         |
| The Lands Late Daniel Delanoy's John Reasons, Dallfields, 100.<br>Acres and Will <sup>m</sup> Watsons Ten Acres, at .....  | 2 0         |
| All the Remaining Part of Glassmoore, at .....   | 1 0         |
| Eastrey field Tythes belonging to St. Mary's, at .....   | 9 0 0       |
| Eastrey field Tythes belonging to St. Andrews, at.....   | 4 10 0      |
| The Decoy belonging to Thomas Aprice Esq <sup>er</sup> , at .....  | 5 0 0       |
| The Value of One Gross Common at Lypney and in Eastrey field   | 5 4½        |
| The Value of one Gross Common in the Wash is .....   | 4 3½        |
| The House Late the Earl of Coventreys Called Berrystead House<br>with Seventeen Acres of High Land Lying Between the s <sup>d</sup> .<br>House and Whittlesea Dyke, at ..... | 9 0 0       |
| And fifty Acres belonging to the said Barristead Lying on the<br>South side of Whittlesea Dyke Called the Breakes, at .....  | 8 0         |
| The Snoots in the field Late the Earl of Coventreys, at .....  | 6 0         |
| The field Tythes and Parsonage House at .....  | 150 0 0     |
| The fen Tythes, and small Tythes, at .....   | 100 0 0     |
| Wype; The Setts and Freemans Acres there, at.....  | 3 6         |
| The Running Commons in Wype, at .....  | 5 0         |
| The Fen Lotts Closes and Grays Closes, at .....  | 5 0         |
| Little Field Close with a Peice of Land Adjoyning to it, at .....  | 7 6         |
| The Freemans Acres in Feldale, at .....  | 2 6         |
| The High Lands in Feldale Next the Field, at .....   | 7 6         |
| The Low Lands in Feldale, at.....  | 4 6         |

|   | At Pt. | Acre |
|---|--------|------|
|   | £      | s d  |
| The Runing Commons in Eastrey fields: at.....   | 7      | 6    |
| Oldeameere; The first Reach or Hoove Next the fields, at .....  | 6      | 3    |
| The Second Reach or Hoove in Great Oldeameere, at .....   | 5      | 0    |
| Little Oldeameere Sowth of Bevills River or Leam; at.....   | 4      | 0    |
| The Turves, at.....   | 3      | 0    |
| Eastrey fen, at .....   | 2      | 8    |
| The Gross Commons at Lypney and in Eastrey fields, at.....  | 7      | 6    |
| Eldernall Farms; The High Lands there at.....   | 7      | 6    |
| The Low Lands at Eldernall, at.....   | 4      | 6    |
| The Earl of Lincolns Lands Beyond Coats: The first Reach from Coats Hard to a Dyke between the Lands in Occupation of George Claxon Daniel Baley and Roger Hurrey to the Long Drove, And from the Said Long Drove to Bevills River, Between the Lands in Occupation of Mr W <sup>m</sup> Avling East And Nathan Hunt West, at ..... | 4      | 0    |
| All the Remaining Part of That Land, at.....  | 2      | 6    |
| This Rate was made in February 1712. And Signed by Three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace Viz Thomas Whittstones, John Walsham, and James Wright, Esq <sup>rs</sup> . and Handed* by One Hundred and Three Townsmen. 1712.  |        |      |

774.—*The Dead Man's Hand.*—In Ellis's enlarged edition of Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, iii., 276, is an instance of the remedy of stroking a wen with the hand of a dead man. From the context it would appear that the dead man ought, for the cure to be effectual, to have been executed for some crime. Nowadays, it seems, this condition is not held to be essential. *The Peterborough Standard*, 11 Mar., 1899, quoting from the *East Anglian Daily Times*, has this story, related by a gentleman "whose veracity may be relied upon":—

Some time ago a man living to the east of the Isle of Ely was suffering, apparently from some disease of a cancerous nature. His sufferings were intense and his face and neck terribly swollen. He was discharged from Addenbrooke's Hospital, as nothing could be done for him. He appeared on the verge of sinking, when a woman said, "I know what will cure you, and it is this only. You must rub your face and neck with a dead woman's hand." Soon afterwards the man heard that a woman had died in a village some distance away. He went to the house, and implored to be allowed to rub his face and neck with the dead hand. The request was granted, and he spent a long time in the operation. He quickly recovered, and is now hearty and well.

The next week the same paper gave an additional instance of the superstition:—

Mrs. Brown, housekeeper to Messrs. Preston Brothers, Stowmarket, gives as a fact the statement that a friend of hers in Norwich had a tumour on his eye, and hearing of the dead hand cure determined to apply the same. At the same time his father lay dead in the house, and taking the cold hand of the deceased, he rubbed the tumour with it after which the growth disappeared.

\* Subscribed.

**775.—Orme Family (745).**—The arms borne by this family are given incorrectly at p. 137. The coat was, *arg. a chevron between three escallops gu.* An engraving of the coat is to be seen in Gunton's *Peterburgh*, on the view of the West Front of the Cathedral. Humphrey Orme was at the expense of the engraving, and beneath his coat of arms is the inscription:—"Benevolo fronte Humfridi Orme Petriburg': Armig: Notitia frontis Ecclesiæ Cath. ibid. posteritati conseruatur." I have a fine heraldic seal shewing the bearings very clearly. I acquired it at the sale in 1860 of Captain H. Orme's effects. It has the Orme coat impaling Stukeley. In Macdonald's *Holbeach Registers* (pedigree, p. 84, and p. 99) we find that Walden Orme, of Peterborough, married Sarah Stukeley, of Holbeach, 25 Oct., 1761, and that she died in London, 20 Feb., 1794, aged 58. There would seem to have been two men of the same name, Walden Orme, contemporaries; because, as will appear later, one Walden Orme certainly married Mary Tomblin in 1786. Perhaps some reader can tell us about this. Was one of them a medical man at Peterborough?

Being connected with the family *ex stirpe maternâ*, I have several notes that may help to make the account already given more complete.

In Bridges' *Northamptonshire*, Vol. i. p. 102, is given a curious epitaph to Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Orme, of Hanch-hall, Esq., daughter of William Marshall. At p. 543 we are told that Thomas Orme was Rector of Whilton from 1551 to 1557.

In the *Heralds' Visitation of Hertfordshire* (Brit. Mus. Harleian MSS. 1504, p. 105), we see that John Orme, of Bartholomews in Smythfield (died 12 Jan., 1617) married Maria (surname not given, died 16 Apr., 1618) and had a daughter, Elizabeth (married Thomas Freshwater, of Len-bridge, co. Essex, Esq., and died 16 May, 1617, æt. 26), and a son, Nicholas Orme, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq. (died 4 Feb., 1628, æt. 28).

Lands in Coverham, co. York, formerly part of dissolved monastery of Coverham, were granted by Philip and Mary to Humphrey Orme: these were afterwards the property of Ralph Croft. (Proceedings in Chancery, temp. Eliz. Cal. i. 162.)

Mary, daughter and heir of Henry Garton, married Robert Orme, of Peterborough.

Mary, third daughter of Sir Peter Garton, married Humphrey Orme, son and heir of Sir Humphrey Orme, co. Northants.

The Rev. Thomas Orme, D.D., once Head Master of Oakham School, died Head Master of Louth Grammar School, 20 Oct., 1814, æt. 70. His grandson, the Rev. George Cave Orme, born at Louth, 19 Apr., 1808, was Rector of Edith Weston, co. Rutl., and died there 21 Ap., 1856. He had two brothers, Charles Cave John Orme, of Oakham, Sheriff of Rutland, 1872, and the Rev. Frederick Orme, Rector of Lyndon, co. Rutl. Both are dead. The Sheriff left a son, George Alington Cave Orme, who is a barrister.

Walden Orme, of Peterborough, married (1), 10 Dec., 1786, Mary Tomblin, of Edith Weston, and went to reside there. There were two sons of the marriage, Humphrey Orme, born 1794, and Edward Septimus Orme; both died unmarried. Humphrey, the survivor, lived for some years at Stamford, and died there 6 Oct., 1860. Walden Orme married (2) his housekeeper, Mary Lowe, 29 May, 1809; he was drowned on the following 19 June. On a monument in Edith Weston Church is this inscription:—"This Tomb covereth the remains of Walden Orme, Esq. late of this place, who was suddenly snatched from this transitory life on y<sup>e</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 1809. The poor and needy will ever have cause to lament the loss of him whose charity and benevolence was unbounded. To the sick also his medical aid was administered with that cheerfulness and alacrity that must ever live in the memory of a grateful heart."

On a monument near is this:—"Sacred to the Memory of Mary Orme, the Wife of Walden Orme Esq. of Peterborough

in the County of Northampton, a daughter of Robert Tomblin, Esq., by Sarah his Wife, who departed this life March 2. 1806."

See also Berry's *Sussex Pedigrees*, p. 152.

Stamford.

JOS. PHILLIPS.

Nicolas Orm occurs as witness to the will of William Moor, of Littleport, co. Camb., 17 June, 1458.

In 1668 Humphrey Orme (No. 4 of the Humphreys in Art. 745) is one of four Commissioners appointed to examine the administration of the Town Revenues of Whittlesey. Ed.

776.—G. Robertson, of Peterborough.—I shall be exceedingly obliged for any particulars of the above. He printed for his "Brother Jim," who was on the stage for the Lincolnshire circuit, a Collection of Comic Songs, &c. The date of this would be about 1780. J.T.

777.—Early Littleport Wills.—The following abstracts are from the earliest book in the Consistory Court of Ely.

George Mundas of Litylport: dated on the day of the Decollation of S. John the Baptist (29 Aug.), 1453, proved 3 March, 1453. Fo. 9.

To be buried in churchyard of S. George. To high altar 12d. To fabric 3s. 4d. To Cristiane my wife a tenement in Littleport with appurtenances. To Agnes my servant one young ox (*bovinulum*) with one sheep. Residue at disposal of my wife, executrix, for good of my soul, &c.

John Palmere, of Lytilport; dated on the day of S. Hilary (13 Jan.), 1453, proved 9 Jan. 1454. Fo. 9.

To high altar for tithes forgotten 12d. To Alice my wife tenement in Littleport with appurtenances for life with everything in the house (*cum toto domicilio meo*); after her death to William and Richard my sons. To William my son another tenement in Littleport with appurtenances. To my wife Alice two cows. To each of my sons and daughters one young ox of 2 years old. Exors. my wife Alice and son William. Residue to exors. to dispose &c.

William Downham of Litelporte within the Isle of Ely: dated 27 March, 1456, proved 21 May, 1456. Fo. 11.

To be buried in churchyard of S. George. To high altar 6d. To fabric 12d. To Joan my wife one ox of 4 years old with everything in my house in Littleport. Residue at disposal of my wife, executrix, for good of my soul. Witnesses, Thomas Ulf, perpetual vicar, John More, John Tydde, and others.

John Bryght of Lyttilporte: dated 8 Nov., 1454, proved 30 Nov., 1454. Fo. 43.

To be buried at Littleport. To high altar 12d. To fabric 6 sheep of 2 years old. To Agnes my wife 3 cows, 12 sheep, 6 lambs. Also to her tenement in Littleport for life, then to be sold by exors. for benefit of our souls and souls of our benefactors. To John my son a cow, sheep, and lamb, and one coffer (*theoa*). Exors., William Wryght (*sic*) my brother, and John Blowfelde, sen.; they to dispose &c. Witnesses, Thomas Ulffe, vicar, John Hawsey, John Tydde, and others.

John Blowfeld of Litelport: dated 2 Nov., 1457, proved 10 Nov., 1457. Fo. 50.

To high altar 12d. To fabric a black mare. To church of Littleport 3 young oxen that they may be applied to the need (*oportunitatem*) of the church at disposition of Thomas Ulf, vicar, for ornaments of the altar, &c. To Margaret my wife a tenement with appurtenances in Littleport for life, after her death to be sold for benefit of souls of our benefactors. Also to her 3 cows, one young ox, 10 sheep, and everything in the house. To John sen., my son, one young ox of 3 years old. To the three boys a sheep each. To Margaret Bernard a sheep. To John jun., my son, one young ox of 2 years old. Exors. my wife Margaret and William Bryght, to dispose &c. Witnesses, the vicar, John Eye, Walter Askyll, and others.

William Moor of Lytelporth: dated 17 June, 1458, proved 13 July, 1458. Fo. 57.

To vicar for mortuary my best animal. To the new altar-piece (*tabula*) of the high altar a sheep. To the fabric a sheep. To the vicar to celebrate a trental (*trigintale*) for my soul 10s. To Joan my wife tenement in Littleport with appurtenances for life, then to Alice my daughter for life, then to be sold for benefit of souls of us and our benefactors. Residue to wife Joan, exor., to dispose &c. Witnesses, Thomas Ulffe, vicar, Nicolas Orm, and others.

Clement Mason of Lytilport in the Isle of Ely: dated 24 Oct., 1458, proved 3 Nov., 1458.

To high altar 12d. To the new altar-piece of the high altar 12d. To Margaret my wife my whole domicile with appurtenances. Residue to her, executrix, to dispose &c.

**778.—Archbishop of Nazareth at Ramsey.**—I should be glad of an explanation of the following entry found amongst the *nova oblata* on the Cambs. and Hunts. Pipe Roll for 5 John (Pipe Roll, No. 48). “Abb. de Rameseia deb. ij palefr. pro amovendo de Rameseia archiep. de Nazareth qui ibi perhendingavit.”

Who was the Archbishop of Nazareth? is anything known of his sojourn at Ramsey? It looks as if the Abbot of Ramsey was to be at the cost of supplying two palfreys in order to speed the parting guest.

Meldreth.

W. M. PALMER.

**779.—White Wild Duck.**—I have a number of these which I am calling the White Witch Duck; because some fifty years ago a specimen was seen in Wicken Fen, and much sought after by sportsmen, but they were always very unfortunate who saw it, and so the bird got to be superstitiously regarded as a witch. My father and I have had wild ducks on our Fen farms for now forty years. About six years ago I managed to catch two white ones, which had appeared as a freak of nature, in the same way as a white sparrow or white starling is met with now and again in a flock. I isolated this pair, hatching all their eggs yearly. The first year I only got 5 per cent. of the birds white, all the rest being the pure old mallard colour. This, I maintain, shews pureness of breed. I killed all of the old colour, keeping only the white. The second year I got 15 per cent. of the birds white; and so on, until last year I got them all pure white. They are a trifle smaller than the mallard, very good on the wing, being very hard to shoot with the sky for a background. I think they are the prettiest birds to be had for ornamental waters. In the course of breeding I have never had an odd feather. I have now seventy of them; and am introducing the breed to the public this season for the first time.

Ely.

CHAS. C. AMBROSE.

In a letter to *The Standard* dated 15 Feb., 1899, the above flock of white wild duck is mentioned as "one of the most interesting facts to an ornithologist," and a good instance of what is called "natural selection." The writer, Mr. J. Titterton, also says:—"Nothing can exceed the elegance of these birds, either in their movements on the water, or their flight, which, by the way, seems rather more quick than that of their darker-coloured progenitors."

ED.

**780.—Grant by Reinfridus de Brueria.**—The following deed was copied from the account of Warin Fitz Gerold and Henry de Codham, sheriffs for Cambs. and Hunts. in the 6th

year of King John's reign. (*Pipe Roll, No. 50.*) It refers I think to some place in Hunts.

Robert Engaine owes half a mark in order that the donation and grant shall be written on the great roll, which Reinfridus de Brueria made to him and his heirs of the whole of his portion (*de tota parte sua*) in Heigh<sup>a</sup>ne which remains to him beyond the 35 acres which he formerly gave to Walter de Leycestre his grandson (*nepoti*), to have and to hold to himself and his heirs, of him and his heirs, free and quit hereditarily and honourably for his homage and service, by the service of one pair of gilt spurs (*calcarum deauratorum*) or 6 pence to him or his heirs to be paid every year at Pentecost for all services or demands to him or his heirs belonging, saving the King's service, as much as belongs to the fourth part of a virgate of land. And Reinfridus and his heirs will warrant the aforesaid tenement against all men and women. And for this recognizance grant and warranty, Robert gave to Reinfridus 15 marks of silver, and to his wife Alice a golden ring.

Can this place be identified?

Meldreth.

W. M. PALMER.

**781.—Crowland Inventory, 1730.**—The following “true and perfect inventory” of the live and dead farming stock on a farm in Crowland parish, as valued in 1730, will be interesting to many besides agricultural readers. We can compare the value of the live stock with the prices of the present day: but no estimate can be formed of the worth of hay and corn, because the quantities are not given.

A true and perfect inventory of all and singular y<sup>e</sup> goods and chattels of Stephen Cherrington late of Crowland in y<sup>e</sup> county of Lincoln, yeoman, deceased. Taken and appraised this third day of December in y<sup>e</sup> year of our Lord 1730, by us whose names are hereunto subscribed as followeth:—

|  | £  | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|----|
| Imprimis. His purse & Apparrill, Horse, Bridle, & Saddle .....                           | 25 | 0  | 0  |
| Item. To Goods in y <sup>e</sup> Dwellinghouse.....                                      | 2  | 6  | 8  |
| Item. In y <sup>e</sup> middle parlour one feather bed & furniture &<br>other goods..... | 10 | 5  | 4  |
| Item. In y <sup>e</sup> other Parlour one feather bed & furniture &<br>other goods.....  | 15 | 6  | 2  |
| Item. In y <sup>e</sup> chamber a Parcell of Several sort of goods .....                 | 20 | 0  | 0  |



|                                       |  | £   | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----|----|----|
| Item.                                 | In y <sup>e</sup> Pantry & Dairy, pots, pans, buckets, tubs, barrilla, & all sorts of milk Vessels ..... | 7   | 10 | 0  |
|                                       | In y <sup>e</sup> barn & yard a parcel of Oats Thrased & unthrashed .....                                | 70  | 4  | 6  |
| Item.                                 | At y <sup>e</sup> farm in Postland a parcel of Oats in y <sup>e</sup> Stackyard & barn .....             | 157 | 10 | 0  |
|                                       | A parcel of hay .....  | 20  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | A parcel of Wheat, Rye, & Coleseed Growing upon y <sup>e</sup> ground .....                              | 22  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 3 Waggon, 2 Ploughs, 2 Harrows, Geers, & other materials of Husbandry .....                              | 23  | 10 | 0  |
| Item.                                 | Mares most of them with foal .....   | 89  | 17 | 6  |
|                                       | One 3 year old Colt and Filley .....   | 22  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 9 2 year old Colts and Filleys .....   | 45  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 1 Gelding & Yearling Filley .....  | 9   | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 1 Bull & 17 Cows .....   | 63  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 8 8 year old Steers .....  | 28  | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 19 2 year old Steers & heifers .....   | 42  | 15 | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 21 Burlins .....   | 24  | 3  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 4 Wealin* Calves .....   | 2   | 0  | 0  |
| Item.                                 | 1 Fat hog .....  | 3   | 12 | 6  |
| Item.                                 | Lumber seen, unseen, & forgotten .....   | 13  | 4  |    |
| Sum of y <sup>e</sup> Inventory ..... |  | 703 | 14 | 0  |

Appraised by us

George Worrell, John Gates, Hugh Worrell.

**782.—Rainfall in the Lincolnshire Fens.**—The Rainfall as observed at Boston for the year 1898 amounted to 19·30 inches, which fell on 138 days. The greatest fall on any one day being 1·67 inches in August. The year's rainfall is 4·19 below the average of the previous 60 years. The rainfall for the last 15 years, with the exception of 1886, has been deficient, the total deficiency amounting to 47·70 inches. This is one of the longest periods in which the annual rainfall has been below the average that has been known since observations have been recorded here. From 1849 to 1864 there were 12 years in which the fall was deficient, but there were two heavy falls during the period, the average for the whole time being 20·96 inches, giving a total deficiency of 40·48 inches. This was followed by a wet period of 19 years from 1865 to 1893, during which, with three exceptions, the rainfall was in excess, the average annual fall amounting to 26·25. The total excess over the 60 years average being 52·54 inches.

\* Qy. wealin? Weanell, a calf just weaned.

The wettest portion of this period was from 1875 to 1883, when the average fall amounted to 29·06 inches, and the greatest fall in one year, 1880, 35·53 inches, this being the greatest rainfall recorded.

Boston.

W. H. WHEELER, M.I.C.E.

**783.—Yorke's Union of Honour.**—This book of heraldry is remarkable as having been written by one whose calling would be generally thought unlikely to favour such a study. It treats of "The Armes, Matches and Issves of the Kings, Dukes, Marquesses and Earles of England from the Conquest, untill this present yeere 1640." But besides these subjects it contains also the Arms of the Gentry of Lincolnshire. There are 292 such coats of arms given.

The author was a Blacksmith of Lincoln. There are some sets of commendatory verses given at the beginning. One of these may be quoted. It is signed "T. Langford—Camb. Brittan."

"To his Friend, James Yorke of Lincolne.  
 Let none upbraid thee for thy skill, whereas  
 Thy Trad's a Smith, thou bred in *Lincolne was*,  
 A Citty great, (where thou didst gather this)  
 Knowne to our Nation well as *London is*,  
 I speake thy worth, thy worke let all men see,  
 And wrest it if they can, still *Yorke shall be*,  
 But what, a Smith, and Herauld? yes, of fame:  
 Thy Pen, thy Booke doth shew, as *Yorke thy Name*."

The words in italic (so printed in the book) refer to a jingling rhyme that was current in the days when rhyming prophecies were in favour.

Lincoln was, London is, and York shall be  
 The fairest city of the three.

Langford, in writing the above verses, must have regarded the fulfilment of the prophecy as very distant. But it was supposed to have been fulfilled within less than thirty years from the publication of the *Union of Honour*, after the fire of London in 1666.

Ed.

**784.—Wimblington Inventory, 1654.**—On 8 June, 1654, an inquest was held at Wimblington, when the jury returned the following verdict:—"We say that George Allen, Wimblington, Husbandman, having not the fear of God before his eyes did wickedly and wilfully hang himself in his own house in a chamber on a little beam with a cord till he was dead. And the furniture and goods and chattels of the said George Allen amount to £99 15s. 0d. and is in the hand of John Francis of Wimblington." Here follow the names of 23 jurymen.

An inventory made the 29 June 1654 of all the goods & chattels of George Allen of Wimblington late deceased.

|           |   |    |      |
|-----------|---|----|------|
| Imprimis. | Nyne Cowes & three heafers two year old & three calves  | 20 |      |
| item      | Three Mares .....   | 7  |      |
| item      | Two Geldings.....   | 7  |      |
| item      | Three towe year olde coultres .....   | 4  |      |
| item      | Seventeen sheepe & tenn lambes .....  | 5  |      |
| item      | One shotte & a sowe & pigges .....  | 2  |      |
| item      | An Acer of Wheatte .....  | 1  | 10   |
| item      | Two & a half Acers of Ottes & pease .....   | 2  | 10   |
| item      | One Acer & three & a half rodes of barley .....   | 2  | 10   |
| item      | Gras in his Closes & in ye Meaddo .....   | 3  |      |
| item      | Two Carttes & a plowe & ye gyears.....  | 2  | 10   |
| item      | In ye yarde hyempe .....  | 13 | 4    |
| item      | In ye halle, one joyne beadsted with a feather bead, two<br>boulsters, two pillowes, one rougge, one blanket, cur-<br>taines & veallances ..... | 4  |      |
| item      | In ye same rume, one half headed bedstead & feather<br>bead, a coverlead & blankit.....   | 13 | 4    |
| item      | One table, two formes & a wicker Chyer .....  | 7  |      |
| item      | In ye next roome One corse feather bead a beadstead &<br>a troundle beed & an old bead .....  | 1  |      |
|           | In ye 3 <sup>rd</sup> roum, one borded beadsteade, feather bead<br>coverlead & blankit.....   | 1  | 6 8  |
|           | One brase copper & five ould brase panes.....   | 1  | 13 4 |
|           | In ye kiching One iron potte, frying pane & irones & a<br>spetto & a payer of tongs.....  | 10 |      |
|           | One Staut, 4 Chayer & a littell tabell, 6 poutter dishes,<br>4 chamber pottes & 3 flageings .....   | 12 |      |
|           | One poutter candellsteeke, One brase potte, 2 Shillettes,<br>a brass candellsteeke & 2 old coubards.....  | 16 | 8    |
|           | For ye bruig vessell in ye bruehouse .....  | 1  |      |
|           | In the dary 1 chese press & outhur lumber .....   | 1  |      |
|           | In ye hall chamber one parcell of wheatt & other<br>lumber .....  | 2  |      |
|           | 8 payer of shettes, 2 bord clothes, 6 Napkings, 3 pillow<br>bores & 2 chestes.....  | 2  | 10   |
|           | Dewe upon lands & bielles .....   | 14 | 10   |
|           | For the lease in being .....  | 7  |      |
|           | Dewe from Willyam Pottes fore rent for a close.....   | 3  | 2 8  |

Summe totull is..... 99 15 0

Signed James Barber.

Ely.

C. JOHNSON.





FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

SWAN ELEC. ENG. CO.

LEANING TOWER—SURFLEET CHURCH, LINCOLNSHIRE

785.—**Surfleet Church.**—An effort is being made to restore this interesting church, a church which retains many beauties and striking features, notwithstanding that the chancel has lost one bay, and has had its ancient windows altered and its roof replaced by one of little merit. The internal fittings are very poor, the seating being of common deal; and the facts that the value of the living is very small (with no residence), that there is no resident landlord of ample means, that there is an acreage of nearly 4,000 acres with a scattered population, have all contributed to the steady deterioration of the fabric. “Damp, dirt, and decay,” says the Architect who has been consulted about the restoration, “have also had their share in bringing the church into its present somewhat forlorn condition.”

Previous articles in *Fenland Notes and Queries* have dealt with the monumental inscriptions in the church, the ancient family of the Herons of Cressy Hall, the parish accounts, and other matters; and these are sufficient to shew that the parish has an interesting history.

A hurried glance at the church would leave the impression that it was in the main a building of the 15th century. This is because of the insertion of Perpendicular windows in the aisles. We give a few sentences from the report of the Architect, Mr. C. H. Fowler.

“The Church is an extremely interesting one with an Architectural History that is not as clear as is frequently the case. That there was an Early English Church is clear from the South Porch and other parts, but very little of it is left, the present character of the building—except the Chancel—being late 14th century work. The finest piece of work of that date is undoubtedly the Tower and Spire, remarkable not only for their beauty of design and workmanship, but from the way in which they both lean over.

“The Tower, built only on the soft silt of the District, appears to have sunk considerably to the North West during

its building, but apparently without injuring it. It then probably was allowed to remain some years without its Spire, and probably did not move any further, so that it was considered safe to build the Spire, which was then carried up 'plumb.' This extra weight however seems to have moved the Tower again, and it, with Spire on it, sunk still more to the North West until it stopped at the angle we now see it, having a most curious and remarkable effect.

"The Decorated windows of the Aisles have given way to others of the perpendicular style and the Clerestory is also of the same date."

The leaning of the tower and spire is a most peculiar feature. There is probably not another church in England where such a defect is so conspicuous. The view which accompanies this article, prepared from a negative taken by the present Vicar, shews this inclination very distinctly. The Early English work of the south porch can also be seen. The arch of this porch is particularly worthy of notice.

Some good details of Decorated work remain. The parapets of the nave and aisles are of this date, and have good strings of ballflowers. These extend up the western slopes of the aisles, and to the walls of the porch. Both aisles and porch have bases of pinnacles, but the pinnacles themselves are gone. Several of these pinnacles exist, and are to be put up again. The buttresses to the south aisle are very good. To the north east of the nave is a curious grotesque gargoyle. The font is very rich and of good workmanship. It is octagonal, with quatrefoils in each side. All the sunken portions have carved foliage. Four of the faces have blank shields, and four have crosses. An exactly similar font existing at Pinchbeck, the next parish, has been engraved. The nave, of four bays, has handsome clustered shafts of Decorated date.

The preliminary cleaning which has taken place has disclosed in different parts of the walls traces of four Maltese

crosses painted in red. It is possible these may be dedication crosses. A large painting of the royal arms in a frame above the chancel arch has in conspicuous characters GR IV; but the motto "Semper eadem" and the heraldic bearings indicate the reign of Queen Anne. The west door is a fine one: but its effect is much impaired by a vast accumulation of soil. This is probably as much due to the tower sinking as to the earth being raised. The chancel roof is curious and interesting from being so good for its date, time of James I.

The estimated cost of the work necessary to preserve this interesting building is £2,000. Nothing that is not essential to the security of the fabric is in contemplation; and some repairs that are desirable, but not of immediate and pressing urgency, are left for a later effort. The name of the architect is a sufficient guarantee that nothing will be done to impair the old character of the church, and that no ancient features will be needlessly tampered with.

The Vicar, the Rev. H. Law James, would thankfully acknowledge any help towards raising this sum: and he will be pleased if any persons who are interested in church architecture would visit Surfleet and see for themselves the urgent need of immediate repairs.

**786.—Decree of Pious Uses, Whittlesey.**—This was the name given to a scheme for the due and proper disbursement of the Town Revenues of Whittlesey. John Lamb, in one of his note-books, gives this account of it.

An Abstract or Abridgement of the Decree of Pious uses transcrib'd from a Copy of the Original Decree in the Month of October 1773.

Nicholas Davie's Last will bears Date y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Day of October 1654, And was proved in y<sup>e</sup> Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

The Rents & Profits of y<sup>e</sup> Ten Acres of Land in Blackbush, Given and Devised by y<sup>e</sup> said Nich<sup>s</sup> Davie, have never Been receiv'd & Distributed by y<sup>e</sup> Governors of y<sup>e</sup> Town Revenues but y<sup>e</sup> same have heretofore been received and Distributed by some Private Person or Persons, & Lately by M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Ground.

Particulars of y<sup>e</sup> Lands & Tenements belonging to y<sup>e</sup> Town Revenues of Whittlesea as y<sup>e</sup> same are Specifi'd in y<sup>e</sup> Decree of Pious Uses.

First Donation.

One Nicholas Davie did by his Last Will bearing date y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> October: 1654. Give & devise unto y<sup>e</sup> Poor People of Whittlesea, Ten Acres of Fen



or Marsh ground lying in Blackbush, y<sup>e</sup> Profits of y<sup>e</sup> same to be yearly Distributed amongst y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Poor People on Good Friday & St Thomas Day in every year by equal Portions.

Second Donation, House in Ernold street, & 16A. Arable

Land in y<sup>e</sup> Fields.

That one Folliot did many years since give settle Limit & Appoint, One Messuage & 16 Acres of Land With y<sup>e</sup> Appurte<sup>s</sup> in Whittlesea, afores<sup>d</sup>. for & towards y<sup>e</sup> Perpetual ease of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> said Town of Whittlesea In y<sup>e</sup> Maintenance of their Charge in a Causey Called Auldrey Causey\* In y<sup>e</sup> afores<sup>d</sup> Isle of Ely.

And also that there hath been since settled by & in Pursuance of a Decree out of y<sup>e</sup> Court of Exchequer bearing Date at Westminster y<sup>e</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Feby in y<sup>e</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Year of king Charles y<sup>e</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 26 Acres of Fenny or marsh ground out of y<sup>e</sup> Wastes and Commons of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township of Whittlesea, as an improvement to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Messuage & 26 Acres Viz. to y<sup>e</sup> Messuage 10 Acres and to y<sup>e</sup> said 16 Acres of Land, 16 Acres: y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> 16 Acres Parcel of y<sup>e</sup> 26 Acres Lies (as Described in the Decree) in a Place Called y<sup>e</sup> Turves In St Andrews, D. Land lot abutting south upon Whittlesea Dyke, North upon a Drove way, & West upon y<sup>e</sup> Lands of Francis Underwood Esq<sup>r</sup>. & y<sup>e</sup> 10 Acres residue of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> 26 Acres Lies in a Place there Called Bassinhillmoor In St Andrew<sup>s</sup> Eight Cottage Lott, Abutting North upon a Drove way West upon y<sup>e</sup> Land of Thomas Wiseman Gent. South upon y<sup>e</sup> five & twenty foot Drayn.

I suppose this 10<sup>a</sup> to be y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>a</sup> in West Fen.

Also Ten Acres of Land Lying in Whittlesea afores<sup>d</sup> in a Certain Place Called y<sup>e</sup> Turves in St Andrews C Lot, East upon y<sup>e</sup> Lands of Francis Bevil & Abutting South upon a Drove way & North upon St Marys 1<sup>st</sup> Land Lot & y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. 10 Acres of Land were also formerly set out as an improvement to an Half full Land Belonging to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township of Whittlesea in Pursuance of a Decree between y<sup>e</sup> Lord of y<sup>e</sup> Manor & Tenants of Whittlesea afores<sup>d</sup>.

Also That there hath been 100 Acres of Fennay or Marsh ground set out by y<sup>e</sup>. Consent Of y<sup>e</sup> Lord & Tenants of y<sup>e</sup> Manors of Whittlesea Afores<sup>d</sup>. in Pursuance of y<sup>e</sup> Decree of y<sup>e</sup> Court of Exchequer above Recited (that is to say) 50 Acres in a Place there Called y<sup>e</sup> Turves abutting South upon Whittlesea Dyke & West upon y<sup>e</sup> Tenants Doles in Wype (now y<sup>e</sup> Wash) And y<sup>e</sup> Other 50 Acres Residue thereof in a certain Place Called Bassinhillmoor Abutting West upon Delph Dyke Leading to Thorney, South upon y<sup>e</sup> River Called Mortons Leame, to be used in Severalty, for y<sup>e</sup> Publick use & Benefit of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea.

Also that there are 2 other Parcels of Ground Called or known by y<sup>e</sup> names of y<sup>e</sup> Angle & Pingle heretofore Limited And Appointed by y<sup>e</sup> Lord & Tenants of y<sup>e</sup> Manors of Whittlesea afores<sup>d</sup>. to be used, In Half severalty for y<sup>e</sup> use & benefit of y<sup>e</sup> said Township.

Also one Parcel of Land Lying in Whittlesea Afores<sup>d</sup>. Commonly known by y<sup>e</sup> name of y<sup>e</sup> Common half Acre.

Third Donation, A House near the Low Cross.

Also that one Rob<sup>t</sup> Colston brother and Heir of John Colston did in or about y<sup>e</sup> third Year of y<sup>e</sup> reign of Queen Elizabeth Surrender one Cottage with a garden adjoining Containing half an acre & two half full Lands with y<sup>e</sup> Appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> Use of Th<sup>o</sup>. Dow, Oswald Speechly, & Robert Hellfull in Trust for y<sup>e</sup> Publick Use of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township of Whittlesea.

And also that there two Almshouses belonging to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea Situate in Old Whittlesea street. There are also Ten Acres of Fen or Marsh ground Lying in Glass Moor belonging to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town

\* A note in another part of the MS. book says "Auldrey Causey the other side hadnam [Haddenham] about a Mile in the Isle of Ely."

Revenues of Whittlesea, but as neither Of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> two Parcells of Fen or Marsh Ground are Mentioned in y<sup>e</sup> Decree of Pious Uses: It is Supposed that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> two Parcells of Ground were also formerly Set out by y<sup>e</sup> Lord & Tenants of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Manors of Whittlesey, One Ten Acres as an Improvement to one of y<sup>e</sup> Cottages, & y<sup>e</sup> Other Ten Acres as an Improvement to One of y<sup>e</sup> half full Lands belonging to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town Revenues.

There are also belonging to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town Revenues of Whittlesea Running Common in Kings Delph 6 Acres Lying together & one Single Acre & also 4 Gross Commons Lying at Lipney, but as none of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Running Commons in Kings Delph, or y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. gross Commons at Lipney are Particularly Mentioned in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Decree of Pious Uses It is supposed that 3 Acres Part of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. 6 Acres of Running Common in Kings Delph & one of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. gross Commons at Lipney are Appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> Town House near y<sup>e</sup> Low Cross & that the three Acres Residue of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. 6 Acres in Kings Delph and one Other of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. gross Commons at Lipney are appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> Town house in Arnold Street & that y<sup>e</sup> single Acre of Running Common in Kings Delph and y<sup>e</sup> Other 2 gross Commons at Lipney are Appurtenances to y<sup>e</sup> two Alms-houses.

By William Colville, Humphrey Orme, Christopher Thursby, & Thomas Edwards, Esquires, Authoriz'd for Putting in Execution a certain Statute made In y<sup>e</sup> 43<sup>rd</sup> year of Queen Elizabeth Intituled an Act to Redress y<sup>e</sup> Misemployment of Lands Goods & Stock of Money heretofore given to Charitable Uses It was amongst Other things Ordered, adjudged, and Decreed, that Francis Underwood Esq<sup>r</sup>, Robert Glaphorne Esq<sup>r</sup>, Rich<sup>d</sup>. Read Gent, Robt Beale y<sup>e</sup>. Elder Gent, y<sup>e</sup> Vicar of Whittlesea St. Mary for y<sup>e</sup> time being, Tho<sup>s</sup>. Wiseman y<sup>e</sup> Elder Gent, John Laxon y<sup>e</sup> Elder Th<sup>o</sup> Ground, Ja<sup>s</sup> Ives, Jn<sup>o</sup>. Laxon y<sup>e</sup> Younger, Francis Beville, & Christopher Turner, shall be & are hereby Ordered, Adjudged, Decreed, & Appointed, to be Governors of y<sup>e</sup> yearly Revenues and Profits of y<sup>e</sup> Lands & Monies in This Decree before Mentioned & that they or any Seven or more of them four times in y<sup>e</sup> year shall meet in y<sup>e</sup> School house in St. Marys Church in Whittlesea (that is to say) On Monday Next after y<sup>e</sup> Feast of St. John Baptist On Monday next after y<sup>e</sup>. Feast of St. Michael y<sup>e</sup> Archangel, On Monday next after y<sup>e</sup>. feast of y<sup>e</sup>. Nativity of our Lord, & on Monday next after y<sup>e</sup> feast of y<sup>e</sup> Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, & then & there y<sup>e</sup>. same Governors or any seven or more of them shall at their s<sup>d</sup>. Meetings or such of them as y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Governors or any seven of them shall think fit, Distribute y<sup>e</sup> Rents, Proceed, and Profits of y<sup>e</sup> same Lands, Tenements, & Monies in such proportions As by any seven or more of them shall be Adjudged fit (that is to say) For Relief of Tradesman, Poor, & Impotent Persons fallen into Decay Within y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township, Putting out Poor Apprentices born there, Repair of y<sup>e</sup>. Parish Churches, Repair of their Streets, Causeys, Bridges, Alms-houses, And Publick Buildings, & such Other Public Uses for y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township & Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup>. same as y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Governors or seven or more of them shall think fit and Direct.

Town Bailiffs appointed & to be yearly Appoint<sup>d</sup>.

By y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners, Hugh Underwood Gent, & Jn<sup>o</sup>. Laxon were constituted & Appointed Bailiffs & Receivers of the Rents & Profits of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Messuages, Lands, Tenements, & Stocks of Money, until y<sup>e</sup> feast of St. Michael y<sup>e</sup> Archangel then next coming & that then yearly On Monday next after y<sup>e</sup> feast of St. Michael y<sup>e</sup> Archangel y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Governors Or any seven or more of them Shall Nominate & Appoint two Bailiffs or Receivers of known Ability & Integrity & Residing in y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township of Whittlesea As well as to Let, Set, & Dispose of, y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Messuages, Lands, Tenements, & Stocks of Money, for y<sup>e</sup> Uses afores<sup>d</sup>, for one year then next following & to Collect, gather, & receive y<sup>e</sup>. Rents, Issues, & Profits of the same as y<sup>e</sup> same Shall accrue for y<sup>e</sup> subsequent Year & that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Bailiffs shall from time to time so yearly to be nominated & Appointed Pay Over y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>.

Monies so by them to be Collected in such manner as y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Governors or any seven or more of them shall by writing under their hands at any of their Quarterly Meetings Direct & Appoint for y<sup>e</sup>. Uses before Limited.

Trustees Appointed & new Ones to be Elected.

By y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners Twelve Persons (Whose Names are inserted in y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Decree) Were Appointed to be trustees for y<sup>e</sup>. Several and Respective Messuages, Lands, & Tenements, afores<sup>d</sup>. & their Several & Respective Interests in y<sup>e</sup>. Same So as y<sup>e</sup>. Estate in Law may be Vested in them y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Trustees to be Pursued & Executed by way of Trust To & for y<sup>e</sup>. Interest & Benefit of y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea, & y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners did Order, Adjudge, & Decree that when so many of y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Trustees shall happen to Depart this Life or Remove from y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea that there shall happen to be Only five Living & Remaining to Act in y<sup>e</sup>. Trust afores<sup>d</sup>. That then y<sup>e</sup>. five Persons who shall be then Living Shall Convey, transfer, & Asure, all Their right, Interest, & Trust, of & in all y<sup>e</sup>. Messuages, Lands, Tenements, & Stocks of Money afores<sup>d</sup>. Unto 12 Other Persons of Known Integrity who shall be then Inhabitants in y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea, & who shall be Elected & Assign'd by y<sup>e</sup>. Homages at th ir next General Court to be holden for their s<sup>d</sup>. Manors of Whittlesea St. Mary, and Whittlesea St. Andrew, & from & after y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Conveyances so had & Executed as afores<sup>d</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. first Trustees shall be Discharged to all Intents & Purposes & y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. new Trustees so to be Elected & Assign'd shall be & are hereby Decreed & Declared to stand, be seiz'd & Possess'd of all y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Messuages, Lands, Tenements, & Stocks of Money afores<sup>d</sup>. in Trust for y<sup>e</sup>. Uses & Interests before mentioned as if they had been Actually & Personally Nominated & Assign'd by this Present Decree.

And y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners do further Order, Adjudge, & Decree, that y<sup>e</sup>. Town Bailiffs for y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea yearly to be Elected do make as well a new Rentall of all y<sup>e</sup>. Lands, Messuages, & Tenements, belonging to y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea within this Decree Compris'd, & all y<sup>e</sup>. Rents, Issues, & Profits of y<sup>e</sup>. same for such year as they shall be so Elected & serve in y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Office & also make a Particular Acco<sup>t</sup>. of such stocks of money as shall also During y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. year belong to y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Township in Manner as Afores<sup>d</sup>. & Deliver y<sup>e</sup>. same yearly at y<sup>e</sup>. next Meeting after St. Michael unto y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Governors or any 7 or more of them to be safely kept in y<sup>e</sup>. Town Chest so to be Provided as afores<sup>d</sup>. for which Rentalls & Particulars y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town Bailiffs shall be allow'd such Satisfaction as y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Governors or any 7 or more of them shall Direct & Appoint.

And y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners do further Order, Adjudge, & Decree, that when any of y<sup>e</sup>. Governors shall happen to Die or remove & Dwell out of y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea, or refuse to Act in y<sup>e</sup>. same Government, that then y<sup>e</sup>. surviving Governors at their next 3 Monthly Meeting from & after such Other Person or Persons residing within y<sup>e</sup>. s<sup>d</sup>. Township of Whittlesea\* to supply his or their place or Places who shall so Die, remove, or Refuse to Act as afores<sup>d</sup>. which s<sup>d</sup>. Persons, so to be new Elected, shall have y<sup>e</sup>. same Power to all intents & Purposes as if they had Originally been named or assign'd in this Present Decree†.

And whereas there are Divers Parcels or gores of Grass Land within y<sup>e</sup>. Limits & Bounds of y<sup>e</sup>. Manors & Township of Whittlesea afores<sup>d</sup>. Called by y<sup>e</sup>. names of Constables grass, y<sup>e</sup>. Bulls grass, y<sup>e</sup>. Churchwardens grass, y<sup>e</sup>. Bailiffs goar grass, y<sup>e</sup>. Bellmans goar grass, y<sup>e</sup>. Herds goar grass, in Eastrea field, & y<sup>e</sup>. Herds furlong & goar grass in Wypp, y<sup>e</sup>. Herds goar grass in Kings Delph, The Boars grass & Bulls grass in Eastrea field, have been anciently Limited & Appointed by y<sup>e</sup>. Consent & Agreement between

\* The meaning is clear ; but some words have been omitted in the transcript from the original.

† This order seems inconsistent with the former order that new Trustees shall be appointed when the number falls to five.

y<sup>e</sup> Lords & Tenants of y<sup>e</sup> Manors of Whittlesea afores<sup>d</sup>. (that is to say) y<sup>e</sup> Constables grass to y<sup>e</sup> Constables, y<sup>e</sup> Bulls grass & Boars to y<sup>e</sup> Constables for keeping each of them a Common Bull & Boar for y<sup>e</sup> use of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Township, The Churchwardens grass to y<sup>e</sup> Churchwardens for y<sup>e</sup> time being, y<sup>e</sup> Bailiffs goar to y<sup>e</sup> Bailiffs of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Town of Whittlesea for y<sup>e</sup> Time being, & y<sup>e</sup> Herds grass to y<sup>e</sup> several Neat Herds of y<sup>e</sup> several Precincts within y<sup>e</sup> Manors & Township Afores<sup>d</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> time being yearly & In Consideration as a Compensation & Recompence for their several respective Pains & Charges in y<sup>e</sup> Due Execution of their several & respective offices, & y<sup>e</sup> Commissioners did Order, Adjudge, & Decree, that y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. several Parcels & goars of grass above recited, be for ever hereafter Employ'd to y<sup>e</sup> Particular uses afores<sup>d</sup>. as y<sup>e</sup> same were at first Limited & Appointed between y<sup>e</sup> Lords & Tenants of y<sup>e</sup> Manors of Whittlesea Afores<sup>d</sup>.

In Whitness whereof y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Commissioners did Put their Hands & seals to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup>. Decree y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>. Day of June, in y<sup>e</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>. year of y<sup>e</sup> Reign of King Charles y<sup>e</sup> Second & In y<sup>e</sup> year of Our Lord: 1668.

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| William Colville    | } Commissioners. |
| Humphrey Orme       |                  |
| Christopher Thursby |                  |
| Thomas Edwards      |                  |

**787.—The Liberty of Peterborough.**—In Saxon times the Abbot of Burgh S. Peter was invested with the privileges of “sake and soke” and “tol and them,” to be exercised within his two hundreds of the Ness of Burgh. This imports the right to have all felonies committed within those hundreds tried there, and to keep the King’s gaol and to have a gallows. The King would send his justices to deliver the gaol when needs be.\* The Commissioners of gaol delivery were distinct from those of assize, which related to suits between subjects; the latter were directed to the justices in eyre who held their Court at Northampton.

In 1440, King Henry VI. granted a charter† to the Abbot enabling him to nominate justices to deliver the Liberty gaol with the same powers as the King’s justices had for the delivery of the County gaol, with a proviso that one of the justices so assigned should be one of the justices of the quorum for the county. King Edw. IV., in 1462,‡ confirmed his predecessor’s charter, granting to the Abbot the right to nominate one from the county quorum or some other expert in law

\* 4 Edw. III., c. 2., A.D., 1330. Gaols were to be delivered of all prisoners at least three times a year.

† Pat. 28, Henry vi. pt 2, m. 8.

‡ Pat. 2, Edw. iv. pt 1, m. 10.

to be of the Liberty quorum. This restriction was removed by a charter of King Henry VII.\* in 1492, which conferred on the Abbot the right to appoint all the Liberty justices, with power to hear and determine all felonies and to deliver the gaol. This Liberty jurisdiction is exercised now, the justices being appointed by the Crown on the nomination of the Lord Paramount. It was found in 1535 that "the severance from the Crown of the prerogative of making justices of gaol delivery and justices of peace was to the detriment of the royal estate," and thus much of the Abbot's privileges was revoked by an Act of 27 Henry VIII., c. 24.

This calendar of prisoners, delivered from the Liberty gaol in 1424, is taken from the Register of Abbot Gyenge. The Liberty Commissioners were then appointed by letters patent. The hearing was in the English tongue, the enrolment of the proceedings in Latin according to an Act of 36 Edw. 3, c. 15, A.D. 1362, which provided "*qe toutes plees qe serront a pleder en nos courtz quiconques soient pledez, montrez, defenduz, responduz, debatuz et juggez en la lange engleize et qils soient entreez et enroulezz en latin.*"

The Liberty Justices now exercise jurisdiction by virtue of three separate commissions: 1st, the ordinary commission of the peace; 2nd, a commission to try all treasons, misprisions of treason, insurrections, murders, felonies and manslaughter; 3rd, a general commission of gaol delivery. New commissions† are issued at the commencement of a reign.

*Deliberacio Gaole domini Regis de Burgo Sancti Petri [1424].*

*Dominus Rex mandavit dilectis et fidelibus suis Willielmo Babyngton Thome Wydevyle Willielmo Tresham et Johanni Billyng literas suas patentes in hec verba Henricus Dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie dilectis et fidelibus suis Willielmo Babyngton Thome Wydevyle Willielmo Tresham et Johanni Billyng Salutem. Sciatis quod constituimus vos tres et*

\* Pat. 8, Henry vii. pt 2, m. 15.

† The Commission. After the charter of Henry vii. commissions for delivery of the Liberty gaol do not appear indorsed on the Rolls till after the surrender of the Abbey. The Abbot's jurisdiction was then exercised by the Crown till the erection of the bishoprick in September, 1541, at which time the Liberty was re-granted to the Bishop, who appointed the justices till 1576, when Bishop Scambler surrendered all jurisdictions, franchises, and Liberties of the Nesse of Burgh to Q. Elizabeth, who of her especial grace granted all the said liberties to William, Lord Burleigh.

duos vestrum quorum\* vos prefatum Willielmum Babyngton unum esse volumus justiciarios nostros ad gaolam nostram de Burgo Sancti Petri de prisonibus in ea existentibus hac vice deliberandum Et ideo vobis mandamus quod ad certum diem quem vos tres vel duo vestrum quorum vos prefatum Willielmum Babyngton unum esse volumus ad hoc provideritis conveniatis apud Burgum Sancti Petri ad gaolam illam deliberandum facturi inde quod ad justiciam pertinet secundum legem et consuetudinem regni nostri Anglie salvis nobis amerciamentis et aliis ad nos inde spectantibus Mandavimus enim vicecomiti nostro Norhantonensi quod ad certum diem quem vos tres vel duo vestrum quorum vos prefatum Willielmum Babyngton unum esse volumus ei scire facietis omnes prisonos ejusdem gaole et eorum attachiamenta coram eis tribus vel duobus eorum quorum vos prefatum Willielmum Babyngton unum esse volumus ibidem venire faciat. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium xxiij die Junii anno regni nostri tercio. Virtute quarum literarum patencium domini Regis precatatus fuit vicecomes quod venire faceret coram prefatis Willielmo Babyngton et sociis suis suprascriptis apud Burgum Sancti Petri die lune proximo post festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli proxime futurum omnes prisonos ejusdem Gaole tam probatores quam alios prisonos quoscunque cum eorum indicamentis attachiamentis appellis et omnibus aliis adminiculis dictos prisonos quoquo modo tangentibus. Et de quolibet hundredo comitatus predicti tam infra libertates quam extra xxiiij milites quam alios probos et legales† homines dictos prisonos in illa affinitate attingentes Et de quolibet villata in quibus felonie facte fuerunt quatuor homines et prepositum premunire eciam faciatis custodes pacis domini Regis coronatores Ballivos libertatum Comitatus predicti quod tunc sint ibidem cum eorum indicamentis attachiamentis appellis et omnibus aliis adminiculis dictos prisonos quoquo modo tangentibus Ita quod deliberacio illa ad dictum diem non remanebit faciendum et quod proclamari eciam faciatis per totam ballivam suam tam infra libertates quam extra quod omnes illi qui appella versus hujusmodi prisonos prosequi vellent quod tunc essent ibidem versus eos prospecturi si sibi viderint expediri &c quiquidem vicecomes videlicet.

Wakerley inde fecit execucionem &c

In the translation of these documents the names and descriptions are not repeated every time they occur, as in the originals.

#### Delivery of the King's Gaol of Peterborough.

Our lord the King directed his letters patent to his beloved and faithful William Babyngton, Thomas Wydevyle, William Treesham and John Billyng, in these words; Henry by the grace of God King of England and France and lord of Ireland to his beloved and faithful &c. greeting: Know ye that we have appointed any three or two of you, of whom we will you the foressaid Will. Babyngton to be one, our justices to deliver our gaol of Peterborough of prisoners now therein therefore we

\* The practice of joining some person learned in the law occasioned the "quorum" clause. Under the Crown Office Act, 1877, the old commissions were called in, and the clause has since been omitted.

† Legales, i.e., freemen who were law-worthy, having rights which spring from free birth. Villains were born in bondage.

command you that on a day certain which any three or two of you, of whom you the foresaid Will. Babyngton we will to be one, shall appoint, ye do meet at Peterborough to deliver that gaol and to do therein whatever pertains to justice according to the law and custom of our realm of England reserving to us fines and other things belonging to us. And we have commanded our sheriff of Northampton that on a day certain which any three &c notify him that he do cause to come all the prisoners of that gaol, together with the cause of their attachment, there before you &c. In witness whereof we have made these our letters patent. Witness myself at Westminster the 22nd day of June in the 3rd year of our reign. By virtue of which letters patent of our lord King the sheriff was asked to bring before the foresaid Will. Babyngton and his fellows above named at Peterborough on the Monday next after the feast of S. Michael the Archangel next coming all the prisoners of the same gaol both approvers and other prisoners whatsoever with their indictments, attachments, appeals, and all other aids in any way touching the said prisoners And from each hundred of the foresaid county, within liberties and without, 24 Knights and other good and law-worthy men who have to do with the said prisoners in that district And four men from each township in which the felonies were committed And that you cause the constable to summon the keepers of the King's peace, coroners, bailiffs of the liberties of the foresaid county, that they be there with the indictments, attachments, appeals and all other aids in any way touching the said prisoners So that the delivery on that day may not leave remanets and to proclaim throughout his bailliwick, both within liberties and without, that all those who wish to prosecute appeals against the said prisoners be there to be confronted with them.

Whereof Wakerley did execution, &c.

*Deliberacio gaole domini Regis de Burgo Sancti Petri coram Willielmo Babyngton Thoma Wydevyle et Willielmo Tresham die lune proximo post festum Sancti Michaelis Archangeli Anno regni regis Henrici vi<sup>ti</sup> post conquestam liij<sup>to</sup>.*

Norht. SS.\*

Willielmus Smyth de Burgo Sancti Petri in comitatu Norhantonensi carpenter captus pro eo quod ipse indicatus est coram custodibus pacis domini Regis in Comitatu predicto de eo quod in vigilia Translacionis Sancti Thome martyris anno regni regis Henrici quinti post conquestum nono apud villam de Burgo Sancti Petri Margaretam uxorem Johannis Brentyngham felonice rapuit venit per Vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de feloniam predicta sibi superius imposita acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fit inde jurata juratores venientes qui ad veritatem de premissis dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Willielmus in nullo est culpabilis de feloniam predicta sibi superius imposita nec unquam ea occasione se retraxit† ideo idem Willielmus eat inde quietus. Q<sup>a</sup>.

Delivery of the King's gaol of Peterborough done there before Will. Babyngton, Thos. Wydevyle and Will. Tresham on Monday next after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel in the 4th year of the reign of King Henry the 6th after the conquest.

Northampton to wit.

William Smyth of Peterborough in the county of Northampton carpenter, in custody because he is indicted before the keepers of the peace of our lord the King in the foresaid county for that he on the vigil of the Translation of Saint Thomas the Martyr in the 9th year of King Henry V. at the town of Peterborough feloniously raped Margaret the wife of John Brentyngham came brought to the bar by the sheriff. And being asked how he wished to be tried for the foresaid felony so charged against him, says that he is in no wise guilty and for good and evil puts himself on the country. Therefore a jury is formed to speak to the truth of the premisses who being picked, challenged and sworn say on their oath that the foresaid William is not guilty of the foresaid felony so charged against him nor did he ever by reason thereof withdraw himself therefore let the same William go acquitted. Acquitte.

\* Scilicet.

† The arraignment or accusation. This old form of asking how the prisoner wishes to be tried is disused. It now consists of three parts; 1st, calling the prisoner to the bar by name; secondly, reading the indictment to him; thirdly, asking whether he be guilty or not of the offence charged.

‡ Nec: ret: is the usual contraction found in the gaol books. Flight in criminal cases was itself a crime. An innocent man who fled from a charge of felony forfeited all his goods and chattels. When the jury acquitted the prisoner it was necessary for his protection to have a verdict acquitting him of flight. During the Commonwealth the proceedings were recorded in English; and the formula was, "Not Guilty. No flying."



Norht. SS.

Johannes Dyve de Wermynghon in comitatu Norhantonensi housbondman captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis pro eo quod ipse die lune proximo post festum Sancti Valentini Anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum proximo clausum et domos Roberti Ireland de Ashton apud Asshton fregit et unum quarterium ordeï precii duorum solidorum et sex denariorum de bonis et catallis predicti Roberti ibidem inventum felonice furatus est Et quod idem Johannes die anno et loco suprascriptis clausum et domos Thome Eston de Wermynghon apud Wermynghon in comitatu predicto fregit et unum quarterium avenarum precii duorum solidorum ibidem inventum felonice furatus fuit venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de feloniiis predictis acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se\* super patriam Ideo fit inde jurata juratores venientes qui ad veritatem de premissis dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Johannes in nullo est culpabilis de premissis sibi superius impositis nec unquam hiis occasionibus se retraxit ideo idem Johannes eat inde quietus. Q<sup>a</sup>. Q<sup>a</sup>.

Northampton to wit.

John Dyve of Warmington in county of Northampton husbandman in custody because he was indicted before the foresaid keepers of the peace for that he, on the Monday next after the feast of S. Valentine in the 1st year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the conquest, broke into the stable and dwelling house of Robert Ireland of Ashton at Ashton and feloniously stole one quarter of barley, of the value of two shillings and six pence, of the goods and chattels there found of the said Robert, And for that the same John the day and year above written broke into the stable and dwelling house of Thomas Eston of Warmington at Warmington and feloniously stole one quarter of oats, of the value of two shillings, there found. Being brought to the bar &c. &c. (As before in last record. The prisoner was acquitted on both charges.)

Norht. SS.

Willielmus Salum de Armeston in comitatu Norhantonensi cursour† captus est pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis de eo quod ipse die Jovis in vigilia Sancti Michaelis anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum secundo clausum et domos Johannis Wakerley armigeri apud Oundell in comitatu predicto fregit et de bonis et catallis ejusdem Johannis precii sexaginta solidorum ibidem felonice furatus fuit Et quod idem Willielmus die anno et loco supradictis unum equum precii tredecim solidorum et quatuor denariorum de bonis et

\* Po: se: is the usual contraction, i.e., he elects to be tried by a jury of his countrymen.

† Probably the running post. "Coursing officers" occur in old acts: and "Coursing snatchers" in King Henry V., i. 2.

catallis Willielmi Hilde de Stoke Doyley felonice furatus fuit Venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de felonis predictis acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis\* Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam. Ideo fit inde jurata Juratores venientes qui ad veritatem de premissis dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Willielmus Salum culpabilis est de premissis sibi supra impositis catalla ipsius Willielmi nulla† Ideo idem Willielmus suspendatur. S<sup>o</sup>

Northampton to wit.

William Salum of Armeston in the county of Northampton runner in custody for that he is indicted before the foresaid Keepers of the peace because he on Thursday the vigil of S. Michael in the 2nd year of the reign of K. Henry the 6th after the conquest broke into the stable and dwelling house of John Wakerley esquire at Oundle in said county and feloniously stole three horses of the goods and chattels of the said John of the value of sixty shillings, And because the same William the day and year abovesaid feloniously stole a horse of the value of thirteen shillings and four pence of the goods and chattels of William Hilde of Stoke Doyley, brought to the bar by the sheriff and asked whether he wished to be acquitted of the said felonies says that he is not guilty and for good and evil puts himself on the country And a jury being summoned the jurors being picked challenged and sworn to find the truth about the premisses say on their oath that the said William Salum is guilty of the offences charged against him and that he has no goods therefore let the same William be hanged.

Hanged.

The remainder of this calendar will be given in a future part.

L. GACHES.

788.—*Meals*.—In the last number of *Fenland Notes and Queries* is a note to the description of the Lincolnshire coast and marshes, in which it is said that the word *meals* is new to the Editor. I have frequently come across the word in old

\* Cul: the abbreviation for culpabilis, with prit, or prist, occurs in gaol books, to signify the readiness of the Clerk of the Crown to go to trial on the prisoner's plea; hence the word culprit. It occurs in the trial of the Earl of Pembroke for murder in 1678. "Clerk of Crown.—How say you—are you guilty or not guilty? Prisoner.—Not guilty. C. of C.—Culprit, how will you be tried? P.—By my peers."

† Cat: nul: goods of freemen were forfeit.

plans and reports ; and I have described it in the glossary in my *History of the Fens of South Lincolnshire* in these terms:—  
 “Meals or Meols. Sand hills on the coast, covered with grass or scrub. The Meals near Gibraltar Point are described in a report of 1773 as ‘a light blowing sand’.” These are the sand hills referred to in the above article.

In this report, which was made by a Committee appointed to view the Fens, it is stated that “the meals or banks along the course of the (Wainfleet) Haven from the new Sluice to Gibraltar Point were increasing and running southward, and that the channel would in a short time be lost; that from Gibraltar House towards Skegness was a bold shore, where the sea set in hard against the meals, &c.”

I have met with the same word in the Ribble estuary.  
 Boston.

W. H. WHEELER.

**789.—Gabriel du Perrier, Pastor of Walloon Church at Whittlesey (765).**—In Michaelmas term, 1653, a bill was exhibited in the Exchequer Court by Gabriell Duperier, of Whittlesey, “clarke.” It set forth “that being a minister of the gospel according to the discipline of the reformed churches in France, he was about 1646, solicited by Sir Theodore Mayerne Kt, then owner of the Manor of Whittlesey, to take charge of a church or congregation there consisting of divers persons, Dutch and French Walloons.” It goes on to state that he had left a good position in London in order to come to Whittlesey, that he was to be paid out of land belonging to Mayerne, but that his tenants now refuse to pay their dues. The suit was undertaken to compel them to pay. An answer was filed by John de Saintes, Mark le Pleu, and others, in which they say that they were not anxious to have him at Whittlesey, that their lands belonged to the Earl of Bedford, and that they lived five miles from Whittlesey. The reference to this document is *Excheq: B. & A., Commonwealth, Cambs. 5.*

Meldreth.

W. M. PALMER.

**790.—Norman Cross Barracks (597).**—There are four brief entries in Lamb's note-books\* about Norman Cross. A query suggests itself on reading the third of these. By what route would the French prisoners have come from abroad for them to pass the Dog in the Doublet and Whittlesey on their way to Norman Cross? Did they land at Wisbech?

- 1796 22 Dec. The Barracks at Norman Cross a making.
- 1797 24 Mar. The soldiers came to guard the Barracks.
- 10 Apr. The gang load of French came by the Dog and Doublet to go to the Barracks, got out at Mr. Squire's Close, and guarded by the horse soldiers to the Barracks.
- 31 July. Mr. Thos. Ground's waggon set off for London to go for porter for the Barracks and Whittlesey.

**791.—Peterborough Dispensary and Infirmary.**—We reprint three cuttings from *The Stamford Mercury* referring to the early days of the above Institution. The first two are dated: the last is from the paper of 5 Nov., 1819.

**PETERBOROUGH DISPENSARY BALL.**

**THE** First annual BALL and SUPPER for the benefit of the Funds of the Peterborough Public Dispensary, will be held at the ANGEL INN on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21st, 1818.—Dancing will commence at Nine o'clock.

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Lord Viscount MILTON,  | } Stewards. |
| WM. SQUIRE, Esq.       |             |
| WM. WELLS, Esq. Holme, |             |
| F. SKRIMSHIRE, M.D.    |             |

Tickets, 10s. 6d. each, to be had of Mr. JACOB, printer, and at the Bar of the Angel Inn.

**Peterborough Music Meeting.**

*For the BENEFIT of the PUBLIC DISPENSARY,*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1819.

*Patrons.*

The Rt. Hon. Earl Fitzwilliam  
 The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carysfort  
 The Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Peterborough  
 Lord Viscount Milton  
 Rev. Dr. Strong, Archdeacon  
 Rev. Dr. Madan, Prebendary  
 Rev. J. S. Pratt, Prebendary  
 Rev. Joseph Parsons, Prebendary  
 William Wells, Esq. Holme  
 William Walcot, Esq. Oundle  
 Cheselden Henson, Esq. Bainton  
 William Squire, Esq.  
 Thomas A. Cooke, Esq.  
 Charles Cole, Esq. Paston  
 Buxton Kenrick, Esq. Alwalton  
 A. Christie, Esq.

**I**N the course of Divine Service at the Town Church, which will commence at Eleven o'clock, and where a SERMON will be preached on the

\* See Art. 772.

occasion by the Right Rev. the Lord BISHOP of PETERBOROUGH, will be performed, a Selection of *Sacred Music*,

Under the direction of Mr. LARKIN, and Mr. C. J. ASHLEY of London.

In the evening, will be performed, at the THEATRE,

A GRAND MISCELLANEOUS CONCERT  
*Of Vocal and Instrumental Music.*

PRINCIPAL VOCALISTS:

Miss GEORGE, Mr. KENWARD, Mr. NOAKES, and Mr. YARDLEY.

PRINCIPAL INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMERS:

Violins, Messrs. BINFIELD, COLE, ATTER, G. BALL, &c.; Violas, Messrs. DUBOIS and CUNNINGTON; Principal Violoncello, Mr. ASHLEY; Double Bass, Mr. S. DUBOIS; Horns, Messrs. WOOLMAN; Flute, Mr. WATERFIELD; Hautboys, Messrs. BALL, &c.; Organ, Mr. LARKIN.—Choruses by the Choristers of the Cathedral, assisted by others.

Tickets for the Evening Concert, Boxes and Pit 7s. 6d.,

Gallery 3s., to be had of Mr. JACOB.

Places for the Boxes to be taken at Mr. KEARLY'S.

*The Concert will begin at Seven o'clock.*

There will be an Ordinary at the Angel Inn at 4 o'clock.

*My father's*  
*His* **H** The first triennial meeting for the benefit of the Peterboro' Public Dispensary, which has been looked for with so much interest by the friends of the institution and the public at large, took place on Tuesday last; and we are happy to add, that it surpassed the most sanguine expectations.—The meeting of Governors in the morning was attended by Sir E. Dolben, W. Walcot, Esq., C. Henson, Esq., the Archdeacon of Northampton, and many others of the gentry and clergy of the town and neighbourhood, when the Bishop of the Diocese was elected one of the Vice presidents, and Mr. Walker the regular surgeon of the institution. The gentlemen then walked in procession to view the new lodging house provided for the reception of country patients, and were most highly gratified with all the accommodations provided by the zeal and judgment of Dr. Skrimshire, the physician. From thence they proceeded to the town church, where a very large and respectable congregation was assembled, and the impression produced by the very luminous and appropriate sermon of the Lord Bishop was testified by a contribution amounting to 63*l.* 14*s.* 7½*d.* At 2 o'clock the Governors and other friends of the Dispensary met at the town-hall to hear the triennial report of the physician, which detailed, in the most interesting manner, the progress of the institution, and the benefits which it has rendered to more than two thousand of the poor in this city and neighbourhood within the last three years. The whole of the report was heard with an attention which marked the deep interest excited by its details, and, at times, was interrupted by loud expressions of feeling which it was impossible to suppress. Indeed, it appeared most evident, that the proceedings of the day had impressed upon the public, and upon the ladies in particular who kindly favoured the meeting with their presence, a sense of the value and importance of the institution which will not easily be effaced; and we trust that a spirit has now been excited in behalf of this most charitable cause, which will not rest till it has accomplished that one other object which remains to complete the establishment—a house for the reception of patients afflicted with infectious fever.—The evening closed with a miscellaneous concert at the theatre; and it is but due to Mr. Ashley, Mr. Larkin, and Mr. Cole of Stamford, who, with other performers, very kindly afforded their gratuitous services on this occasion, to say, that their exertions, both at the church in the morning and at the theatre in the evening, were deserving of the highest praise, and were extremely gratifying to all who were present.—The gross receipts on the occasion, including a most liberal contribution from Lord Fitzwilliam, were upwards of 200*l.*

**792.—G. F. Robertson, of Peterborough (776).—**I believe George Fowler Robertson, printer and bookseller, was brother to the original Tom Robertson, leader of the Lincoln company, which may be described as a band of strolling players, occupying for a portion of the year the Peterborough Theatre, which stood on the site of the present Corn Exchange. Of him, "Madge," and Tom, the author of "Caste," were direct descendants. The printer and bookseller, G. F. Robertson, occupied the premises in the Market Place, Peterborough, where *Fenland Notes and Queries* is now published. He gave up business in 1837, when he was succeeded by Mr. J. S. Clarke, the immediate predecessor of the present occupier, the business being still that of a printer, bookseller, and stationer.

G.C.C.

**793.—Fen Provincialisms (769).—**

**WADED.**—Roded; cleansed from weeds. Wells, *Bedford Level*, 695. See "rode."

**WAFFLING.**—Disagreeable. "He's a tricky, waffling fellow, to say the least of him."

**WALL-EYED.**—Applied to a horse with white eyes.

**WALSH.**—A lean-to building attached to a barn.

**WANTY.**—A short rope, a surcingle. (Snodin.)

**WEATHER-BREEDER.**—Too fine to last; a suspiciously fine day, thought to be the forerunner of bad weather.

**WEATHER-EYE.**—"Keep your weather-eye up" means, be watchful, look out.

**WET YOUR WHISTLE.**—Take some light refreshment. Probably this should be "whet."

**WHACK.**—Share. "Come, don't shirk it, take your whack."

**WHADDON ORGANS.**—Frogs. See "Slip in the Fens." Also called fen-nightingales.

**WHEATEN PLUM.**—An old sort of plum, something like the Orleans plum. A great favourite in the early part of the century.

**WHEATSEL.**—Wheat seeding. *Norfolk Chronicle*, Oct., 1894.

- WHEMBLE.**—To turn over ; also wamble, or womble. "It maketh the stomach wamble and fare as it would vomit."  
(Sir T. Moore, p. 77.) Also used of twisting the ankle.
- WHEN TILL.**—Up to what time. A member for Cambridge-shire in the House of Commons, when it was said that the House was to be prorogued, asked, "When till?"
- WHEULS.**—Weevils: insects found in wheat after being some time in the granary.
- WHIG.**—Buttermilk, or whey. Anything very sour is said to be "sour as whig."
- WHILE.**—Until.
- WHIMBLE.**—A carpenter's tool, an auger.
- WHIM-WHAMS.**—Caprices, fancies (Skelton, 1490.)
- WHIPS.**—Plenty ; sufficient and to spare. "We had whips of them, more than required." Also, money collected for drink after a market ordinary.
- WHIRLGIG.**—Fan used for dressing corn before the invention of dressing machines. Sometimes called a "whaps," from the cloths on the outer edges whapping or beating the wind.
- WHITEWASH.**—Flattery.
- WHITTERER.**—One given to whining or complaining ; peevish ; fretful.
- WILLOW-BITER.**—The blue tit. *Parus coeruleus*. We had a nest some years ago in the letter box. Once a pair of willow-biters built in the bone of a cow's leg hanging on the wall.
- WILT.**—Reed or sedge wilted (*i.e.*, slightly dried) for thatching.
- WIND A BIT.**—Halt ; give breathing time.
- WINDLE.**—A snow drift.
- WIN-ROW.**—Hay thrown together in rows to hasten its ripening, to win it, to get it together so as to be better protected against showers.
- WINDING SHEET.**—A film of carbon in a candle. With the superstitious it was held to presage a death in the family.

**WIFE.**—A blow. See “side-wipe.”—To “wipe his eye” is used of a sportsman who kills a bird that another has missed.

**WIRE-IN.**—Hurry on the work. “Now, my lads, wire in.”

**WISE WOMAN.**—A fortune teller. This expression is not confined to the district. But I may mention that consulting such persons about diseases of stock and recovery of lost property has been common in the Fens until quite recently, and perhaps is not yet quite discontinued. Within my own memory a Thorney farmer has been to consult a wise woman. One lived at Wing some years ago who had a great reputation; and many persons from the Fens went to her to be cured of their ailments. There was also one at Walpole. The wife of the original “Orion,” who once lived at Thorney, if I do not mistake, did some business in this line.

**WIZZEN STAKES.**—Or weyzen stakes; used for fastening down sheaves of sedge or reed on the top of banks, to prevent the water flowing over so freely in case of sudden rise in the washes. When drownings were expected the farmers used to watch the banks in turn. The stakes were about two feet long, with a wooden peg about 10 inches long driven through them at about 2 inches from the top, forming a sort of cross, or dagger. Warehouses were erected at easy distances along the banks to hold stakes, sheaves of sedge, and tools, in readiness for an emergency. Possibly from fezzon, to seize on, to fasten; or from A.S. festnen.

**Wo.**—From the word used to make horses stop a phrase has arisen descriptive of a man who is unable to check his extravagance, “He has no wo in him.”

**WOOSH, WOESH.** O!—The teamster’s word when he wishes his horses to go to the left. Is it the French, *gauche*?

**WOTS, WUTS.**—Oats. See *Fenlife in olden time*, ix.

**WYME.**—To coax in an underhand way. “What are you wyming about? Let’s have none of it.” See *Fenland*, 131.



**WYNWOLD WEATHER.**—S. Winwaloe was a Saxon saint who had a cell at Wereham in Norfolk. He is said to have flourished about the year 530. The church at Wereham is dedicated to him. A celebrated fair for horses and cattle was held at Wereham on the day of his festival, March 3rd. This fair was afterwards moved to Downham, where it is still held at the same date, and is called Winnold Fair. The stormy weather common at that time of the year is called Winnold weather. March 1st is S. David's day, and March 2nd is S. Chad's day, hence the weather saying,

First came David, then came Chad,  
Then came Winnold, raving mad.

**YACK.**—Sometimes yark. To snatch.

**YAFFLING.**—Barking, snapping: as, a little yaffling cur.

**YARD OF CLAY.**—A long "churchwarden" pipe.

**YAUPING.**—Noisy, boisterous.

**YELLOW-BELLY.**—A man born in the Lincolnshire Fens.

**YELM.**—Straw drawn out (yelmed) in regular order for thatching. S. EGAR.

**794.—Insubordination at Coveney, 1819.**—I send a paragraph from *The Stamford Mercury* of 14 May, 1819, describing an intended rising against the administration of the Coveney Charity lands. I cannot however find any further account of what was done to the ringleaders, or how the matter ended. Perhaps some correspondent can inform us.

**EXTRAORDINARY OUTRAGE.**—A daring spirit of insubordination broke out recently, in the parish of Coveney, in the Isle of Ely, which, had it not been timely checked, might have led to serious consequences. After four days previous deliberation, the poor (all receiving alms of the parish) made a regular *O yes! O yes!* proclamation through the streets, notifying that the poor would meet at the church-yard gate on Easter Monday, in order to take possession (out of the hands of the feoffees) of the charity lands annually let for the general benefit of the poor, and divide them severally among themselves. Notice of such illegal intention having reached the Magistrates of Ely, Sir Henry B. Dudley issued his warrant for apprehending nine of the ringleaders, who are committed for further examination.

This notice itself is a month after the date of the "outrage," for Easter Day in 1819 was on 11 April.

H.R.S.

**795.—Pepys at Parson Drove.**—Samuel Pepys in his diary, under date 18 Sep., 1663, gives an unfavourable impression of his visit to this place. He says:—

“I began a journey through the fens along dikes where sometimes we were ready to have our horses sunk to the belly, we got by night with hard riding to Parsons Drove, a heathen place. Found my cousins in a sad poor thatched cottage. To bed, up, and, after eating a dish of cold cream, which was my supper last night too, away over most sad fens, all the way observing the sad life which the people of the place, who they do call ‘*breedlings*’ if they be born there, do live.” L.G.

**796.—S. John Baptist's Church, Peterborough.**—Among the papers of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding is one called “The History” of the above church, written by the Rev. Thomas Marshall, who was Vicar from 1726 till his death on 29 Sep., 1748. Attached to this account is a reply by Mr. Maurice Johnson to a question the Vicar asks about Tithes of Merchants. The substance of these papers is here given by permission of Dr. Perry, President of the Spalding Society.

“S<sup>r</sup>

“Peterborough, Mar. 31, 1732.

“I ask your pardon for not being as good as my promise in sending you an acc<sup>t</sup> of the foundation of my Parish Church a post or two before this; but was prevented by business (I cou'd not possibly avoid) from transcribing it. I now send it you w<sup>th</sup>out any further apology, just as it stands in the Minute book of our Society.

“Oct: 7, 1730.

“Ne memoria antiquæ Ecclesiæ Parochialis St<sup>i</sup> Johannis Bap<sup>t</sup> in Burgo St<sup>i</sup> Petri alias Peterborough temporis injuriâ funditus pereat, hanc narratiunculam primæ ejus Foundationis, necnon successiva Vicariorum nomina ex authenticis Registris aliisque MSS. summâ fide excerpta Societati Petriburgensi communicat seræque posteritati consecrat

“Tho.: Marshall { Ejusdem Ecclesiæ  
Vicarius.

“The Parish Church of S<sup>t</sup> John the Bap<sup>t</sup> in Peterborough was first erected by Turolde als. Thorold the fourteenth Abbot of that place, A.D. 1078. It was originally built at the East end of the Abbey church, and stood in a Close still known by the name of S<sup>t</sup> John's close, w<sup>ch</sup> was the old Churchyard, and where formerly there have been human bones dug up and pieces of stone coffins found. The old Vicaridge house stood at the North-west end of the s<sup>d</sup> Churchyard, and is generally suppos'd to be the same w<sup>th</sup> the old slated house now standing thereabouts, having two buttresses in the West front and held by one Christopher Davies a Gardiner from the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough.

“The S<sup>d</sup> Parish Church was remov'd from thence to the place where it now stands by the Abbot Martinus de Vecti (some call him Martin Cook) about the year 1150. The cause of it's removal is thought to have been not only upon acc<sup>t</sup> of the decay of the old Parish church (w<sup>ch</sup> was mostly a wooden building) but also for the better convenience of the Inhabitants of Peterborough, who were all the S<sup>d</sup> Abbot's tenants, and had taken a fancy to build to the Westward of the Abbey church ; whereas the old town of Medeshamstead (w<sup>ch</sup> was the original name of this town before the Abbey church of S<sup>t</sup> Peter was built, and from thence denominated Peterborough) stood cheifly to the East and North East of the S<sup>d</sup> Abbey church, few or no buildings to the Westward, and that part of the town, commonly call'd Bungate (or Boongate) was the then principal part of the old town, tho' at this day far the worst and the meanest.

“'Tis probable this Parish church was serv'd by the Monks of the Monastery for the best part of the first hundred years, without having any certain, settled Vicar or a fixt maintenance for him (all the Tithes of the whole parish both great & small being at that time vested in the Monastery) till William de Waterville the 21st Abbot about the year 1170, endowed the Vicaridge of S<sup>t</sup> J<sup>n</sup><sup>o</sup>. the Bap<sup>t</sup>. w<sup>th</sup> a portion of small

Tythes, 23 acres of arable land, a Manse, a Corrody at the Abbot's table and other perquisites for the maintenance of a settled Vicar; w<sup>ch</sup> said Endowment is now extant in the Registry of the Cathedral church of Lincoln, (in w<sup>ch</sup> Diocese it then was,) and is likewise to be seen in the Leiger book of the Cathedral church of Peterborough, commonly call'd Swapham, as also the confirmation of the S<sup>d</sup> endowment by Pope Gregory the 9<sup>th</sup>."

Here follows a list of Vicars as far as Mr. Marshall could give them. It is however very incomplete, containing only eighteen names, including his own. A more perfect list has already appeared in *Fenland Notes and Queries*, Vol. I., p. 224, so that it is needless to give Mr. Marshall's list. After signing this list "Tho: Marshall Vic. ibid. & Soc. Petriburgen. Secr." he proceeds as follows:—

"This S<sup>r</sup>, is the best acc<sup>t</sup> I am able at present to give you of the first foundation of my parish church; was I acquainted w<sup>th</sup> the Bp.'s Register at Lincoln, so as to have access to the Archives there, I might hope to retrieve the two Centuries that are wanting in this acc<sup>t</sup> I found out the founder of the Church from some ancient papers in the Church chest, where I met with the *Yere tyme* of Abbot Tuold the Founder (w<sup>ch</sup> I presume was the anniversary day of his Death) annually kept at the expence of the Parish, till the time of the dissolution of Abbies in K. Hen. 8<sup>th</sup>'s reign, since w<sup>ch</sup> time I find no more mention made of it.

"There is one thing very remarkable in the Endowment, and w<sup>ch</sup> (if it wou'd not seem too much encroaching upon your profession) I shou'd be glad to have your opinion in. The thing is this: The Vic<sup>r</sup> of this Parish is (inter alia) endow'd w<sup>th</sup> "*tertiâ parte decimarum Mercatorum.*" I have ask'd some Civilians of my acquaintance what they apprehended this to be, and they have ingenuously confess't to me they can make nothing of it, nor ever met with the like passage in any endowm<sup>t</sup> whatsoever. I have consulted Gibson's codex,

S<sup>r</sup> Simon Degg, and others, but can meet with no satisfactory acc<sup>t</sup> from thence; only Lynwood tells us that "*Decimæ personales solventur de Artificibus & Mercatoribus, scilicet de lucro negotiationis,*" &c. from whence, in my private opinion, I am apt to believe, this Church was originally endow'd with a portion of Personal Tithes, and consequently (if no time can prescribe against an original endowm<sup>t</sup>) is still entituled to them by the Statute of 2 of Ed. 6<sup>th</sup> c. 13. w<sup>ch</sup> enacts that every person exercising *merchandizing* (*artem mercatoriam*) &c. who then before within 40 years had accustomably used to pay such personal tythes *or of right ought to pay*, (w<sup>ch</sup> can appear at this distance of time no other way than from the Endowm<sup>t</sup>) shall still pay for his personal tythes the tenth part of his clear gains &c. If this cou'd be recover'd to the Vicaridge, it wou'd make it perhaps as good if not a better Living than any in the Diocese. But I beg pardon for trespassing so long upon your patience, & am, good S<sup>r</sup>, Your most obedient, humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

"Tho: Marshall."

Mr. Johnson replies to this enquiry with a full and learned disquisition upon personal tithes, supported by very numerous authorities. Among other acts he quotes the statute 2 & 3 Ed. VI., c. 13, citing a statute of Hen. VIII., which provides "That Every person exercising merchandizes &c. *i.e.* bargaining and selling, clothing, handycraft, or other art or faculty . . . (other than such as be common day labourers) should yearly at & before the Feast of Easter pay for his personal Tithes, the 10<sup>th</sup> part of his clear gaines, his charges and expences according to his Estate, Condicon, or Degree, to be therein abated, allowed, and deducted." If the Vicar and his parishioner could not agree upon the amount, the latter might be summoned before the Ordinary and examined upon oath as to his profits. But administering this oath was found to be contrary to the legal maxim "*Nemo tenetur prodere seipsum*"; and so, although such oath was apparently administered by statutory authority, yet this same act of Edward VI. abolished such oath

altogether. But it was soon found, in practice, that "since there is no other way to discover them [the amounts due] but by the Oath of the Party w<sup>o</sup> is to pay them, the taking away of that Oathe is the taking away of all proof whereby to recover them. And this [adds Dean Prideaux] is the only reason that personal Tythes have now ceased in this Land, & the Church hath lost that part of Its Revenue whereby Ministers were to be maintained in Towns & Cities where there is more need of them." The conclusion is that such personal tithes, unless accustomably paid, could not be recovered; and that Easter Offerings are to be esteemed as a composition for them.

It will be noticed that the writer of the account of the church has mistaken the period when it was removed to its present site. Abbot Martin did indeed, in the middle of the twelfth century, build a bridge, not very far from the bridge that now exists; and it has been conjectured that as the town extended the better houses were built to the west of the old town, in consequence of the advantage of this bridge: but no evidence whatever has been adduced to shew that any church existed before the present one, on the same site. This is known to have been consecrated in 1407. The account given in Bridges seems to shew conclusively that there was, up to that time, only the church in S. John's Close to the east of the Minster. He tells us that in 1401 the parishioners complained to the Bishop of Lincoln that their church was too far off, and that the waters frequently prevented their attending the services, and they prayed for its removal to a more convenient spot.

The old vicarage house, mentioned in the above account, is still to be seen. The buttresses are there, and there is an unmistakeable air of antiquity about it, notwithstanding various alterations. It is situated at the extreme south end of S. John's Street, on the east side. It is now a small inn, bearing the sign of "The Marquis of Granby."

**797.—Drainage of Soham Mere (768).**—Samuel Wells, in his "Map of the Great Level of the Fens," dated 1829, shews Soham Mere as a sheet of water: but the same author, alluding to Meres in his "History of the Drainage of the Bedford Level," published in 1830, says "Several are now drained and become firm land: for instance Benwick Meer, near Ramsey, now the property of Mr. Isaac Ibberson; and Soham Meer, now belonging to the very respectable family of the Grangers, of Streatham, near Ely, by whom the same was purchased from the Trustees of the late Marquis of Townsend." From an article in *Fenland Notes and Queries*, Vol I. (122), it would seem that the Mere had been drained about a hundred years earlier, and subsequently drowned afresh. G.C.C.

Mr. G. Oliver, of the Museum, Wisbech, quoting from Lyson's *Cambridgeshire*, published in 1808, writes: "Before the draining of the Fens there was a large lake or mere at Soham, through which was in ancient times a dangerous passage by water to Ely." And also quoting from Leland's *Collectanea*, Vol. II., 246: "Soham Mere, containing 1369½ acres, has been drained and converted into tillage." Ed.

**798.—Mawts, Husk, Sprunk.**—I send some notes on certain local words which have been brought to my notice within the last few days: these words were used to myself in the course of ordinary conversation.

Now for the first of them.

The man who buys up dead cattle and turns them into more useful items of commerce is in "The Fallen Trade"; and the animals that have died a natural death yield "mawts" instead of skins or hides or pelts. Plainly this word "mawt," in spite of its present spelling, is "morts" or "mortes"; and this proves that the word has a French origin. Doubtless from earliest times the defunct Saxon ewes were not allowed to carry their useful coats with them when their carcasses went to earth; and probably one word sufficed then for the taken-off

skin, whether the animal had been slaughtered in accordance with its orthodox fate, or whether it had died from other causes: the French word would have been introduced later. "Mawts," I was informed, are of less value than "skins"; and this is what we might have expected to be the case.

Now for another word.

A certain wall paper was described to me as "husk." I ascertained that this meant rough, or scaly, or a little ruffled on the surface. We use the word "husky" when the roughness belongs to the voice, though I learn that "husky" is not derived from "husk," and that it ought to be "husty" or "hausty"; so that "husk" and "husky" are akin only in appearance. The "husks" of certain tree fruits or of grain seeds have generally a rough character; and the adjective "husky" derived from the noun "husk" may occasionally be used now. Dictionaries give other meanings also to "husk" or to words derived from it. I do not however find in any Dictionary the word "husk" as a simple adjective: the present instance of its use in this way seems to be the unexpected survival of a word that most people would regard as obsolete. Such a "find" for the philologist may put hope into the hunter that the dodo or the giant ostrich may yet be food for powder, and the cockney tourist may yet find his hair on end as he meets with the departed wild cat of Scotland. I might perhaps be a little doubtful about the letter "h" in the word "husk": the use of the aspirate was not altogether trustworthy, and was evidently regarded by the speaker as a perfectly indifferent matter: "usk," however, is not to be entertained: "husk" is a good word worth noting: it is certainly not much used in its adjective form, but it has modern developments.

One word more: number three.

A painter told me that he had protected certain shelves from stray drops of paint that might fall as he worked, but that other shelves were already "sprunk"; that is, dappled with paint



spots. This word is evidently the past participle of *sprencan* or *sprengan* or *sprengen*: the original verb is now obsolete; but "sprinkle," which is its frequentative form, is in familiar use.

I promptly made a memorandum about these three words. It is a pity to lose even a record of such old-world words, while Board Schools and Standard Reading Books are gradually destroying old or local phrases and terms.

I do not find any one of the three words, "Mawt," "Husk," or "Sprunk," used as I have described them, in any available Dictionary, Ancient or Modern, Provincial or Archaic: various hints and helps, however, are to be obtained from Dictionaries, and I am indebted to Skeat and others for my attempt to trace them to their original roots. I invite correction from any of your philological readers if my suggestions of the roots are unsatisfactory.

Sibsey.

F. BESANT.

**799.—Throckmorton Family.**—Can any of the readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries* throw any light on the following questions?

1. Gabriel Throckmorton, of Ellington, co. Hunts., b. 9 April, 1577; d. 1626; m. Alice, daughter and heir of William Bedell of Bedfordshire. Was this William Bedell related to the Bedells of Hamerton, or Molesworth, co. Hunts.; if so, how? and if not, to what Bedell family did he belong?

2. Their son, Robert Throckmorton, of Ellington, b. circa 1608; d. 1662; m. (1) . . . . . (2) Judith . . . . .  
Can any one furnish names of wives?

3. His son, John Throckmorton, of Ellington, b. circa 1633; d. 1678; probably m. daughter of Edward Mason, of Hemingford Abbots, co. Hunts., and Elizabeth Locke. This is probable, because his son Robert in his will (dated 1 March, 1695, proved 1699) makes his uncle Edward Mason executor; and Edward Mason in his will dated 9 May, 1696, proved 6 Feb., 1700, leaves his estate at Hemingford Abbots to Mary, his loving wife, for her life, and after her death unto Robert Throckmorton, of Little

Paxton, in the county of Hunts., Esq., and Mary, his wife, and the heirs of their two bodies ; and for want of such heirs, then to the heirs and assigns of Robert Throckmorton. The tomb of Edward Mason in Hemingford Abbots Church shews him to have been the son of Edward Mason and Elizabeth Locke. Information wanted as to the ancestry of Edward Mason, armorial bearings, &c.

349, Broadway, New York.

C. WICKLIFFE THROCKMORTON.

We insert the above, although the places mentioned are a few miles beyond the limits of the Fenland proper ; partly because there is no publication dealing especially with Huntingdonshire queries ; and partly because members of the family very probably migrated into the Fenland district. Ed.

**800.—The Blind Rector and Blind Sexton of Crowland Abbey.**—The following extract from a letter written by Mr. Robert Hardy, 26th October, 1782, from Mountfield Court Lodge, Sussex, to his friend, Mr. Robert Dyer, a medical man at Bristol, may interest the readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries*. The letter is in my possession.

“Travelling from Spalding to Peterborough, I made Crowland Abbey in my way. There I beheld the Ruins of that once celebrated place, which I think Travellers will not have many years to view, it being almost entirely demolished. Part of one side was long since converted into the Parish church, this indeed may remain, tho’ there’s little appearance in it now of an ancient Building. I walk’d about the churchyard and had much talk with the Sexton who was very merry, digging a grave. I found him a pleasant, intelligent, facetious fellow, and could not help being highly entertained with his humour and drollery. Afterwards he pointed to the Cottage where his Wife was who had the key of the church. When there, I congratulated her on having so cheerful a Husband. She say’d indeed he was a very good man, and a good scholar, that he had formerly been an Assistant Schoolmaster, as well as Sexton, that he had also

been the easiest person in the World, excepting one year of his life, during which period he continually fretted day and night.—I ask'd the occasion, heard it was misfortune,—what misfortune?—Loss of Sight!—Well, be thankful he is recovered and got well again.—Yes, Sir, say'd she, he is well to be sure, but has never got the better of his blindness, nor has he been able to see for 18 years past. The Woman astonish'd me. I inquired repeatedly if she really meant *the Man whom I saw digging the grave*, for I had been prating with the poor fellow some considerable time, and he never once lamented his want of Sight, or even threw out the most distant hint of his being blind, but kept shoveling up the Earth, and talking with as much ease as it is possible to conceive, and without a murmur or complaint. It is a fact that the Man has been Sexton at Crowland 22 years, and has done the business of a Sexton 17 years, since his blindness ceased to distress him. It was occasioned by a Cold he caught one severe Winter, when he was obliged to travel about in the Snow, on foot, to many places, in search of some person to officiate for a Mr. Benson, the Gentleman who formerly had the Living,—and what is equally extraordinary, that very Gentleman was blind, but had nevertheless done the Duty of his Church every Sunday, when well, for 30 years preceding his death, tho' all the time was without the possibility of Seeing. The Woman assured me that she had attended his performance of the service four years, which he went thro' with great ease and pleasure, being prompted in the Psalms and Lessons by a Lad who stood near by for the purpose.

“After listening with wonder and attention to the Narrative here related, I was more than ever confirmed in my opinion that Happiness dwells in Cottages, and Contentment in the rural Scenes of Life.”

Long Burton Vicarage,  
Sherborne.

C. H. MAYO.

There is a long account of the Rev. James Benson, and of his many virtues, in Nichols' *Literary Anecdotes*, ix. 638.

It appears that he trained boys of the parish to read Greek to him, though they could not understand what they read. He had a grey mare, which carried him safely for many years, but had to be killed, owing to its breaking its leg. A new horse, given to Benson, ran away with him and threw him, his death ensuing almost immediately. He supported the widow and daughter of his predecessor. He was appointed Rector in 1730. I have not found the date of his death. His successor came in 1761.

The notice of the death of William Hill, the blind sexton, has been given from *The Stamford Mercury* at Art. 343. According to that extract he died 27 Jan., 1791. But the inscription in the west porch of the Abbey gives the year as 1792. As this tablet was not erected till 26 years afterwards, the earlier date is probably correct. The following is the inscription in the porch :—

William Hill, sexton of this parish 82 years, lost his sight by walking in snow when 40 years of age, and yet he acquired all the facilities of those who meet this malady in youth, his acuteness almost superseded his loss since he could walk in and about the Town, and could go in the church yard find each and every grave he was desired to point out, he died Jan<sup>y</sup>. 27<sup>th</sup> 1792, aged 65. To record these singular faculties, and their esteem, the parishioners erected this tablet 1818.

This tablet was again restored in 1869.

Ed.

### 801.—Wages and Prices a Hundred Years Ago.—

These extracts from Lamb's note-books\* shew something of the value of labour and grain, &c., in the closing years of the 18th century.

- 1780 28 Oct. Bought of Mr. Benjamin Holdich one cow at £8. 13s. 0d.; weighed 52 stone; the hide, 6 stone; tallow, 10 stone 2 lb.; with the small offal, received £12 13s. 0: cleared £8.  
Mr. Roger Ground one year's wool sold for 3s. 6d. per tod.
- 1782 30 Nov. Sold all the wool skins to Mr. Robt. Miller at 1s. 4d. per skin whilst Clip Day.
- 1785 Three shillings and sixpence an acre a common price in the wheat field.
- 1792 Twelve shillings an acre for reaping in the field, a common price. Never was such a price remembered in the wheat field.  
Wool at £1. 6s. 0d. per tod. Sold the wool skins from Martinmas to 27 April to Mr. John Godrich at 6s. per skin.  
The highest wages for reaping given out by most of the farmers upon the account of the crop standing in King's Delf "as ever was known at Whittlesea."

\* See Art. 773.

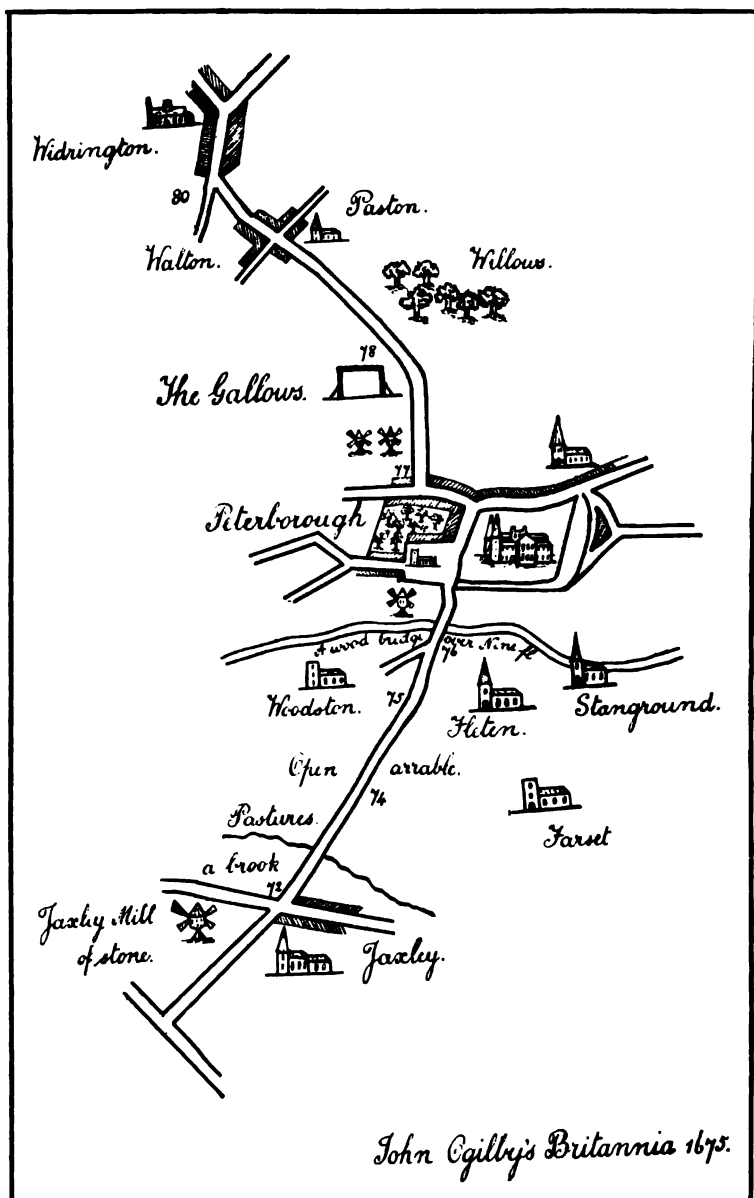
- 27 Aug. 6s. per day, and 5s. for a woman.  
 28 Aug. 7s. per day, and 6s. for a woman.  
 29 Aug. 4s. per day.  
 30 Aug. 4s. per day.  
 31 Aug. 5s. per day.  
 1 Sep. 5s. per day, and 6d. an hour after 6 o'clock.
- 1795 19 July. A Vestry called at Saint Andrew's Church concerning the high price of corn, the wheat being £6. 6s. 0d. a quarter; and in some places none to be had. If they had waited another week it was thought there would not have been so much in the parish as would have served the parish whilst new came to hand, "as it was as near as could be" thought to be about 600 quarters; and no penny bread made, this is the first day that a penny loaf is not to be had. The meal sold at the workhouse at 9s. 4d. per bushel for the poor; and "gave over selling" 16 Sep. Wheat at Stamford market £8. 8s. 0d. per quarter; barley 4s. 6s. 0d. Flour at Whittlesey 4s. 2d. per stone. Oats at £18. 16s. 0d. per last. The price of tallow, per stone, 23 Oct., 5s. 6d.; 30 Oct., 6s. 0d.; 6 Nov., 7s. 0d.; 25 Nov., 6s. 0d.
- 1796 2 Apr. The first day penny loaves began to be sold again by John Chapman and no other baker in Whittlesey. Oats at £14. 14s. 0d. per last.
- 1797 Oats at £2. 15s. 0d. to £6. 6s. 0d. per last, the highest prices.  
 31 July. Mutton 7d. a pound, and has been a long while. No penny pies; Tomoson Ablit gave over as she never knew mutton so dear. [Thomasine was clearly the purveyor of the penny pies; but she could not make them at this high rate for meat.]  
 23 Sep. Beef at Peterborough market 8s. per stone: a great deal sold so: very poor beef at 7s. per stone.
- 1798 5 June. Ewes and lambs at Mr. Goude's sale at 53s. the couple, only one lamb with the ewe.  
 June. Two home bred beast sold for £53: [they had] had nothing but grass and hay: a great price for the time of year.  
 28 July. Ten pigs sold for 16s. at Wisbech Cut, ten weeks old taken of the sow: two sold for 4s.: eight for 12s. John Eaton bought four of them for 6s., and sold two to John Pinglets for 6s., and the other two to Thos. Mills for 6s. and 6d. when he got them home at Whittlesey.

**802.—The Straw-Bear (460).**—Some years ago a query was propounded by Mr. G. Talbot relating to the Straw-Bear which was said to have been "conducted round the town" of Whittlesey on the Tuesday after Plough Monday. I cannot find that any reply has been received. I have just come across a cutting from a newspaper of 1882 which mentions the custom, though it does not explain the origin of it.

The custom on Straw-Bear Tuesday was for the confraternity of the plough to dress up with straw one of their number as a bear and call him the "Straw Bear." He was then taken round the village to entertain by his frantic and clumsy gestures the good folk who had on the previous day subscribed to the rustics' spread of beer, tobacco, and beef, at which the bear presided.

M.M.D.





FENLAND NOTES & QUERIES.

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ENLARGED SKETCH, FROM A MAP DATED 1675, TO SHEW POSITION  
OF THE OLD GALLOWES AT PETERBOROUGH.

**803.—The Liberty of Peterborough (787).—**The conclusion of the calendar of prisoners delivered from Peterborough Gaol in 1424 is here given.

Norht. SS.\*

Galfridus Fox nuper de Burgo Sancti Petri in comitatu Norhantonensi taillour et Johannes Broder de eadem in comitatu predicto glover capti pro eo quod ipsi simul cum aliis die Jovis proximo post festum Inventionis Sancte Crucis anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tercio Johannem Sawtry fratrem ordinis Augustinentis de Huntynghdon de sexdecim solidis et octo denariis de bonis Prioris ejusdem ordinis de Huntynghdon in custodia ejusdem fratris existentibus apud villam de Burgo Sancti Petri felonice depredati fuerunt venerunt per vicecomitem ad barram ducti Et allocuti qualiter se velint de felonia predicta acquietare dicunt separatim quod ipsi in nullo sunt inde culpabiles Et inde de bono et malo ponunt se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem de infra contentis dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predicti Galfridus et Johannes Broder culpabiles sunt de felonia predicta sibi superius imposita Ideo iidem Galfridus et Johannes Broder suspendantur.

S. S.

Northampton to wit.

Geoffrey Fox, lately of Peterborough in the county of Northampton, tailor, and John Broder, of the same in the county aforesaid, in custody, being charged for that they with others on Thursday next after the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, in the third year of the reign of King Henry the 6th after the conquest, feloniously robbed, in the town of Peterborough, John Sawtry, a brother of the Augustinian Order of Huntingdon, of sixteen shillings and eight pence belonging to the Prior of the same Order of Huntingdon, and being in the keeping of the same brother, came, brought by the sheriff to the bar, and being asked how they wish to quit themselves of the said felony, severally say that they are not guilty, and for good and evil put themselves on their country. Therefore let a jury be summoned. The jurors being chosen, challenged, and sworn to speak to the truth of the within contained matters say upon their oath that the aforesaid Geoffrey and John Broder are guilty of the aforesaid felony above charged against them. Therefore let the same Geoffrey and John Broder be hanged.

Hanged. Hanged.

\* Scilicet.



Norht. SS.

Johannes Couper de Pokebroke\* in comitatu Norhantonensi housbondman captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis quod ipse die Martis proximo post festum Sancti Dionisii Anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum secundo viginti et quatuor oves precii quadraginta solidorum de bonis et catallis Johannis Beatriche et Johannis Best de Pokebroke apud Pokebrok felonice furatus fuit venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de feloniam predicta acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem inde dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Johannes Couper culpabilis est de feloniam predicta sibi superius imposita Ideo idem Johannes suspendatur. S<sup>r</sup>.

John Couper, of Polebrook in the county of Northampton, husbandman, in custody being charged before the aforesaid Keepers of the Peace for that he on Tuesday next after the feast of S. Denys, in the second year of the reign of K. Henry the 6th after the conquest, at Polebrook feloniously stole twenty-four sheep of the value of forty shillings of the goods and chattels of John Beatriche and John Best of Polebrook, being brought to the bar, &c., and asked, &c. (He pleaded not guilty, and put himself on his country. Being found guilty he was sentenced to be hanged.) Hanged.

Norht. SS.

Thomas Alderkyrke de Peykirke in comitatu Norhantonensi housbondman captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis de eo quod ipse die lune proximo ante festum Purificationis Beate Marie Virginis anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum primo unum boviculum precii octo solidorum de bonis et catallis Radulphi Campyon de Glynton apud Glynton predictam felonice furatus fuit venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de feloniam predicta acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem inde dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Thomas culpabilis est de feloniam predicta sibi superius imposita catalla ipsius Thome nulla Ideo idem Thomas suspendatur. S<sup>r</sup>.

(In this entry Thomas Alderkyrke, of Peakirk, co. Northants, husbandman, was charged with having, on Monday before the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first year of Henry VI's reign, stolen at Glinton one young steer, of the value of eight shillings, of the goods of Ralph

\* Polebrook Hundred was one of the eight hundreds wherein the abbot had the franchise of "sake and sok." As in the Liberty, the Sheriff was ousted by the words "ne vicecomes se intromittat." There are instances where the Sheriff encroached on the Abbot's jurisdiction, and lodged the prisoners in the county gaol; but without success. The Abbot's attorney would attend the Assizes, and demand the restoration of his man with costs against the Sheriff.

Campyon, of Glinton. He was found guilty and sentenced to death. He had no chattels.)

Norht. SS.

Thomas Grysley alias dictus Thomas Mouseley nuper manens in Woodcroft in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram Thoma Wydevyle senescallo libertatis Abbatis de Burgo Sancti Petri de eo quod ipse in festo Nativitatis Beate Marie Virginis Anno regni regis Henrici sexti secundo unum equum precii trium solidorum et quatuor denariorum apud Helpston de bonis Roberti Strete felonice furatus fuit Et quod idem Thomas die Jovis in festo Exaltacionis Sancte Crucis anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tercio unam togam unum archum et alia bona et catalla ad valenciam viginti solidorum de bonis Johannis Milner apud Loleham felonice furatus fuit venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de felonis predictis acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem inde dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Thomas culpabilis est de felonis predictis sibi superius impositis catalla ipsius Thome nulla Ideo idem Thomas suspendatur. S<sup>r</sup>.

(Thomas Grysley, alias Mouseley, lately sojourning in Woodcroft,\* labourer, was charged before Thomas Wydeville, Steward of the liberty of the Abbot of Peterborough, with having stolen at Helpston, on the feast of the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 2 Hen. VI, a horse worth 3s. 4d., belonging to Robert Strete; also with having stolen at Lolham,† on Thursday in the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 3 Hen. VI, a coat, a bow, and other goods worth 20s., belonging to John Milner. Found guilty and hanged. No chattels.)

Norht. SS.

Willielmus Denby de Glapthorne in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis de eo quod ipse die lune proximo ante festum Omnium Sanctorum anno regni regis Henrici nuper regis Anglie patris domini Regis nunc quinto apud Geyttington quadraginta oves precii quadraginta solidorum de bonis et catallis Willielmi Hay clerici ibidem inventas felonice furatus fuit Venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de felonis predicta acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem inde dicendum electi jurati et triati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Willielmus Denby in nullo est culpabilis de felonis sibi superius imposita nec ea occasione unquam se retraxit ideo idem Willielmus eat inde quietus. Q<sup>r</sup>.

(William Denby, of Glapthorne, co. Northants, labourer, was charged with having stolen, on Monday before All Saints' Day, in the 5th year of the reign of the late King Henry father of the present King, 40 sheep worth 40s., belonging to

\* In parish of Etton, co. Northants.

† In parish of Maxey, co. Northants.

William Hay, Clerk, of Geytington.\* He was acquitted; and it was found that he had not tried to escape.)

Norht. SS.

Thomas nuper serviens Johannis Sprukburgh de Burgo Sancti Petri in comitatu Norhantonensi servavit captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram prefatis custodibus pacis de eo quod ipse die lune proximo post festum corporis Christi Anno regni regis Henrici sexti post conquestum tercio sexdecim solidos de bonis et catallis Johannis Sprukburgh apud Burgh predictam felonice furatus fuit Venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus Et allocutus qualiter se velit de felonia predicta acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata Juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem de infra contentis dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Thomas in nullo est culpabilis de felonia predicta sibi superius imposita nec ea occasione unquam se retraxit Ideo idem Thomas eat inde quietus. Q<sup>a</sup>.

(Thomas, lately in service of John Sprukburgh, of Peterborough, was charged with having stolen 16s. of his master's money on Monday after the feast of Corpus Christi, 3 Hen. VI. He was acquitted, and had not tried to escape.)

Norht. SS.

Thomas Warde de Artlyngburgh in comitatu Norhantonensi Gentilman captus pro eo quod indicatus est coram Willielmo Aldewyncle uno coronatorum domini Regis in comitatu Norhantonensi de eo quod ipse vicesimo die Julii anno regni regis Henrici quinti post conquestum decimo Johannem Cok apud Irtlyngburgh felonice interfecit venit per vicecomitem ad barram ductus et allocutus qualiter se velit de felonia predicta acquietare dicit quod ipse in nullo est inde culpabilis Et inde de bono et malo ponit se super patriam Ideo fiat inde jurata juratores veniunt qui ad veritatem inde dicendum electi triati et jurati dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictus Thomas in nullo est culpabilis de felonia predicta nec ea occasione unquam se retraxit iidemque juratores ulterius perquisiti quis predictum Johannem interfecit dicunt super sacramentum suum quod quidam Gervasius Rudde de Manchestre in comitatu Lancastrensi ipsum Johannem interfecit Ideo predictus Thomas eat inde quietus. Q<sup>a</sup>.

Northampton to wit.

Thomas Warde, of Irthlingborough in the county of Northampton, gentleman, in custody because he was charged before William Aldwinkle one of the King's coroners for the county of Northampton for that he on the 20th day of July in the 10th year of the reign of King Henry the fifth after the conquest feloniously killed John Cok at Irthlingborough, came to the bar brought by the Sheriff, and being asked how he wished to quit himself of the aforesaid felony says that he is in no wise guilty, and for good and evil puts himself on his country. Wherefore let a jury be summoned. The jurors

\* Perhaps Geddington.

came, and being chosen, challenged, and sworn to speak to the truth of the matter say upon their oath that the aforesaid Thomas is in no wise guilty of the felony aforesaid, nor did he ever withdraw himself on the occasion. And the same jurors being further asked who did kill the aforesaid John, say upon their oath that one Gervase Rudde, of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, killed the said John. Wherefore let the aforesaid Thomas go acquitted.

Acquitted.

Norht. SS.

Willielmus Blogwyn de Armeston in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer Robertus Snell de Fulmere in comitatu Cantabrigiensi laborer Johannes Berde de Castre in comitatu Norhantonensi turnour Robertus Fisher de Marham in comitatu Norhantonensi Robertus Brantyngham de Burgh in comitatu Norhantonensi barker Johannes Forest nuper de Wermynghon in comitatu Norhantonensi tailleur Willielmus Trampell de Estfeld in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer Willielmus Braban de Castre in eodem comitatu webster Johannes Merssh de Etton in eodem comitatu laborer Simon Kyng de Norwych in comitatu Norfolcensi laborer Henricus Hopkyn de Thorp in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer Johannes Blome nuper manens in Yakesley in comitatu Huntingdonensi laborer Willielmus Bluntesham de Peykirk in comitatu Norhantonensi laborer Henricus Grey de Hemynghon in eodem comitatu laborer et Johannes Smythfeld de Burgh in comitatu predicto sawyer vi capti per suspeccionem latrocinii secundum statutum Wynton venerunt per vicecomitem ad barram ducti et nullum de eis habetur indicamentum Et iusticiarii pacis de eis inquisierunt et nichil mali de eis invenerunt Et testatum est hic quod sunt bone fame Et super hoc proclamatio pro domino Rege facta est quod si aliquis sit qui versus eos vel eorum aliquem prosequi voluerunt veniat et audietur Et nullus venit Ideo iidem Willielmus Robertus Johannes Robertus Robertus Johannes Willielmus Willielmus Johannes Simon Henricus Johannes Willielmus Henricus et Johannes delibentur &c.

Delibentur.

(William Blogwin, of Armston, co. Northants, labourer, Robert Snell, of Fulmire, co. Camb., labourer, John Bird, of Castor, turner, Robert Fisher, of Marholm, Robert Brantyngham, of Burgh, barker, John Forest, lately of Warmington, tailor, William Trampell, of Eastfield, labourer, William Braban, of Castor, webster, John Marsh, of Etton, labourer, (all these in co. Northants,) Simon King, of Norwich, labourer, Henry Hopkin, of Thorpe, co. Northants, labourer, John Blome, lately of Yaxley, co. Hunt., labourer, William Bluntesham, of Peakirk, labourer, Henry Grey, of Hemington, labourer, and John Smithfield, of Burgh, sawyer, (these three in co. Northants.) were arrested on suspicion of highway robbery pursuant to the statute of Winton: when brought to

the bar no indictment was presented, nor, upon due enquiry, was anything found against them, and it was proved that they were of good repute. Proclamation was hereupon made on behalf of the King for any person who could bring a charge against them or any of them to come forward and he should be heard. As no one came all were discharged.)

Norht. SS.

Johannes Merssh de Peterburgh in comitatu predicto milner captus fuit apud Burgh pro suspectione felonie per constabularium et villatum ibidem et ad gaolam predictam per eosdem in custodiam Johannis Scot custodis gaole predictae missus fuit prout per Kalendarium &c Justiciariorum hic constat de recordo qui quidem Johannes Merssh solempniter exactus non comparuit Ideo de eodem Johanne Scot pro evasione ejusdem predicti Johannis Merssh &c. &c.

Northampton to wit.

John Marsh, of Peterborough in the aforesaid county, miller, was taken at Peterborough on suspicion of felony by the constable and bailiff there, and by them committed to the gaol aforesaid into the custody of John Scot the keeper of the gaol, as appears by record according to the Kalendar of the Justices. Which John Marsh, being solemnly cited, failed to appear. Wherefore as to the same John Scot, for the escape of the same aforesaid John Marsh, &c. &c.

The Liberty Justices retain their jurisdiction to try for murder: but they can, pursuant to an enabling Act passed to relieve local jurisdictions, when a true bill has been found by the grand jury, arraign the prisoner, and then transfer him to the county to be tried at the assizes. This enabling Act was brought into Parliament by Sir J. Scarlett (afterwards Lord Abinger) in 1820. He was member for Peterborough. The title of the Act (60 Geo. III. and 1 Geo. IV. c. 14) is: "An Act to remedy certain inconveniences in local and exclusive jurisdictions." If the Chairman of the Liberty Justices was in holy orders, he could not preside at a trial where life was in jeopardy, by reason of the rule "Ecclesia non novit sanguinem." This is said to have been the occasion of the Act.

The gallows stood on the west side of the Lincoln Road, between the Long Pond and Millfield. They are indicated in

Ogilby's *Britannia Magna*, 1675; and on all subsequent road maps of England. A sketch of a portion of this map is given as an illustration to this article. L. GACHES.

**804.—Water-Spout in Deeping Fen, 1752.**—The Rev. Benjamin Ray, of Cowbit, sent to the Royal Society an account of a water-spout seen in Deeping Fen in 1752, that did a great deal of damage. The account, which is here given, was printed in Vol. 47 of the Transactions of the Society, p. 477.

May the 5th, 1752, a phenomenon appeared about 7 in the evening, in Deeping-Fen, which, from its effects, seemed to be a water-spout, broken from the clouds. A watery substance, as it seemed, was seen moving on the earth and water, in Deeping-Fen. It passed along with such violence and rapidity, that it carried every thing before it: such as grass, straw, and stubble; and in going over the country bank, it raised the dust to a great height; and when it arrived in the wash, in the midst of the water, and just over against where Mr. R. lived, it stood still for some minutes. This watery substance spouted out water from its own surface to a considerable height, and with a terrible noise.

On its second route, it proceeded in a side line into the river, breaking in its passage a fishing-net, and there moved along, till it came to the church, where it again stood a little while, and then made its next passage through the space between the church and the parsonage house, towards Weston hills and Moulton chapel. In its way to these places, it tore up a field of turnips, broke a gate off the hinges, and another into pieces. Those who saw it evaporate, affirm it ascended into the clouds in a long spearing vapour, and at last ended in a fiery stream. There was a mist, like smoke, frequently round it. Three more were seen at the same time in different places.

**805.—Fire at Boston, 1761.**—The following is from *The Annual Register* for 1761.

Boston, Jan. 19. We have had an extreme cold season, whereby our harbour has been for two or three days almost filled with ice. We have, within that time, had several alarms by fire, which were soon extinguished; but Tuesday evening last, a violent fire broke out in one of the shops opposite the north side of Faneuil Hall Market, on Dock-square, which entirely consumed all the row of wooden buildings from the store-house, occupied by the hon. Thomas Hubbard, Esq.; to the Swing-bridge. These buildings belonged to the town, and were leased to a number of tradesmen, some of whom had their whole stock therein, most of which was either consumed or lost. There were several schooners in the dock, but they received little damage; nor did the fire proceed to the north side of the dock; on the contrary, it communicated itself to that stately edifice, Faneuil Hall Market, the whole of which was soon entirely consumed, excepting the rick walls, which are left standing. The fire then proceeded to a number of shops occupied by some tradesmen, on the south side of the market, and consumed them also. The wind rising about this time, carried the flakes of fire over the houses towards King-street, and the warehouses and stores on the Town-dock, and Long-wharf, wherein were the greatest

quantities of the richest merchandize in the town. Although the flames and flakes of fire fell on many houses and stores, yet no dwelling-house was consumed; though one or two near the market were considerably damaged. Never were slates on houses discovered to be of so much advantage as at this time; for when great flakes of fire fell thereon, they immediately ran off without doing any damage. The loss of Faneuil market must be great to this town: it was built near twenty years ago, at the sole expence of the late generous Peter Faneuil, Esq. This capacious hall, which bore the founder's name, could contain 1000 of the inhabitants at a meeting. There were convenient apartments for the officers of the town to transact their respective businesses therein; besides two offices at the east end of the lower floor, one of which was occupied as a naval office, the other as a notary public's, the other part was very commodious for a market. The records, papers, &c. with such other things as could be removed, were mostly saved.

There were near twenty tradesmen deprived of shops by this fire, which must make it extremely difficult in this winter season, especially when it is considered that many of those, who lost their shops in March last, are not yet supplied with proper places to carry on their respective businesses.

**806.—Star Names (764).**—A correspondent, under the signature of "Royal Navy," writes from Callao, in Peru, that he has read the query about local names of constellations, and proceeds:—

When I was a boy I was taught to call Orion's Belt by the name of "The three jolly butcher boys"; and I remember fancying it had something to do with the colour of the aprons worn by butchers when on duty.

**807.—Earthquakes, 1750.**—In Vol. X. of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, abridged, is a Collection of various papers concerning several earthquakes felt in England in 1750 and other years. These papers seem to have been published in Vol. XLVI. of the original Transactions. It appears that in 1750 two severe shocks of earthquake were felt in the Fen district, one on 23 Aug., and the other on 30 Sept. The particulars are derived from information of Mr. Maurice Johnson, the well-known founder of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding, and Mr. William Smith.

As early as February in this year preliminary shocks were felt in different parts of England; and, except June, not a month past without some record of an earthquake somewhere in this country. Of the two specially named above, the first

was felt severely in Spalding and the neighbourhood at about 7 a.m.\* "For a fortnight before the weather had been serene, mild and calm: and one evening there was a deep red aurora australis, covering the cope of heaven, very terrible to behold." At Grantham, and Milton (near Peterborough), the same shock was felt. It only lasted a few seconds, but during that time houses tottered, and heaved up and down; a rushing noise accompanied the shock; slates and tiles fell from the roofs of houses; pewter and glasses fell from shelves; and windows very generally rattled and were sometimes broken. Amongst other places named as having experienced the shock are Stamford, Bourne, Grantham, Spalding, Boston, Lincoln, Holbech, and All-Holland, Peterborough, Wisbech, with all places intermediate. "Then it passed over the whole breadth of Ely-Fen, and reached to Bury in Suffolk." The centre of this earthquake was considered to be in Deeping Fen. "Much the major part of Deeping Fen is under water in the winter; underneath is a perfect bog: now it is very obvious how little favourable such ground is for subterraneous fires."

In the second earthquake a much larger area of the Fen district was affected; all Donnington Fen, Deeping Fen, Crowland Fen, Thorney Fen, Whittlesey Fen, Bedford Level, and all Ely Fen. "This country, under the turf, abounds with subterraneous timber of all kinds; fir, oak, and brush-wood; stags' horns: now and then they find a quantity of hazel nuts, crowded together in a heap." At Spalding Mr. Johnson was obliged to scour his canal and deepen it, and the men came upon a white quicksand which afforded plenty of excellent water. In the neighbouring village of Gosberton a strong brick house was cracked. The effects of both earthquakes were spread north and south, and felt specially on the sea coast. The direction of the river at Spalding was thought to account for this. "We observe further, that the main of the second earthquake displayed its effects along and between the

\* There is some confusion in the "Abstract" as to the exact hour.



2 rivers Welland and Avon\*; and that from their very origins down to their fall into the sea. It likewise reached the river Witham, which directed the electric stream that way too to Lincoln; for which reason, as there meeting the same coming from Boston, the shock was most sensibly felt."

Mention is incidentally made of an earthquake in Lincolnshire in November, 1703. On that occasion "the weather was calm, close, gloomy, warm, and dry, in a degree highly unusual at that season." It is not said in what parts of the county this shock was felt. Ed.

**308.—Yaxley Market (763).**—The following is the full text of Anthony Forest's letter to Lord Cecil about the market at Yaxley, referred to in Art. 763. This Lord Cecil was Sir Robert, second son of the great Lord Treasurer Burghley; he was Secretary of State, 1596—1609. In 1603 he had been created Baron Cecil of Essendine; in the next year he was made Viscount Cranborne; and in 1605 Earl of Salisbury. Sir George Home, Keeper of the Great Wardrobe, was the first Lord Home of Berwick. L. G.

To the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Cecill, principle secretary to his Mat<sup>ties</sup> and his Mat<sup>ties</sup> most honorable privye counsell.

The Bearer hereof one Mr. William Carryer of Yaxleie hath ymportand<sup>d</sup> me to be troublesome to your Lop: in his behalf who hath beene Baliefe of Yaxleie in Huntingdonsheire this many yeares and hath renewed his patent from the Lord Treasurer and Sir George Hume both to his great trouble and charges. But Yaxleie beinge pte of the Queenes Mat<sup>ties</sup> Joyntair y<sup>t</sup> hath pleased yo<sup>r</sup> honor to bestowe the balywicke thereof uppon one Evans whoo hath solde it to one Mr. Probye an officer of the Tower a man very busye and troublesome and a fellow geven to pry and prowle in to honest mennes estates. In so muche that the poore people her Mat<sup>ties</sup> tenants of Yaxleye are in great feare of him. Probye writeth under his hand as I have seene and yo<sup>r</sup> Lop maye by this bearer reade a lre wherein hee writeth that yo<sup>r</sup> honor w<sup>d</sup> in a manner inforce him to be Baylife and to bye it of Evans wch wee can hardly beleive. Therefore I most humbly beseeche yo<sup>r</sup> lop for yo<sup>r</sup> honors sake to be good to this bearer who hath beene both at great chardges for the place and is willing to give as much as Probye to Evans yf it may so stand w<sup>th</sup> yo<sup>r</sup> lyking And is as sufficient a man every waye as Probye to deale in the place. This poore Towne of Yaxleye is lyke to be myghtellie wronged by Peterborough yf yo<sup>r</sup> Honor being their steward in whome theie doo putt all their trust doe not stand good lord unto them. Peterborough doe seeke by all meanes to overthrow the market at Yaxleye but of this Sir Olliver Crumwell can certifie yo the whole matter and the cause of the suyte. And Sir Anthonie Myldmay hath

\* That is, the Nene.

promised Peterborough to take their parte being deputie Steward under yo<sup>r</sup>. Lords<sup>h</sup>. at Yaxley wch is a great greefe to the poore inhabitants of Yaxley that theire deputie steward should oppose himselfe against them. But the reason is because the men of Peterborough at Sir Ant. Myldmay's request have made one M<sup>r</sup>. Edward Wymarke burgess for Peterborough, a man I ame suer well knowne to yo<sup>r</sup>. honor but verye hardlye known to the towne of Peterborough and a man I am suer in my knowledge hath lyttle skill in the state of Peterborough. The whole towne of Yaxley and other my kynd counterie men, to whome for theire loves I am muche bound, have bothe by petition and word of mouth soe often ymportunated me to write unto yo<sup>r</sup>. Ld<sup>s</sup>. that I have beene ashamed any longer to denye ther requeste. Therefore good my lord pardon my bouldness in writinge in the behalfe of my next neighbours in so greate a cause And you shall fynde me as yo<sup>r</sup>. poore welwiller to doe yo<sup>r</sup>. Lop any servyce soe far fourth as my lyfe and lyvinge shall make me able; from my house, Morborne. this xvii<sup>th</sup> of Marche. 1603.

Yo<sup>r</sup>. Lop<sup>s</sup>. in all Service and Dutye to comand.

Ant. Forest.

**809.—Drainage of Thorney Fen.**—Long before the settlement of the Walloons at Thorney, the skill of the inhabitants of Flanders about drainage works had attracted the attention of the Commissioners of Sewers, who were supervising the drainage of "surrounded grounds" in the fenland. In 1588, an Act of the Privy Council\* recites that the Commissioners "had in chardgable sorte endeavored divers workes of sewers whereuppon small effectes had proceeded." And the Council appointed as aids to the Commissioners, "Humfrey Bradley of Bergen-ap-Zome, John Hexhame of Huntingdon gent. and Ralfe Agasse† of Suffolk men able to make viewe and platt for the several fennes marshes and decaied grounds in the said fower shires and to observe the true dyssentes of waters and qualyties of the soile through which waters should be carryed." It was as early as 1574 that Sir William Russell‡ sought to arrange with certain Protestants in Flanders to cross the channel and reclaim the surrounded grounds at Thorney. His petition to the Privy Council of Queen Elizabeth is as follows:—

The humble request of Sir William Russell Knight to the right honorable the Lords of her Maty<sup>s</sup> Prevy Councell.

Humbly beseecheth yor honorable Lordships That whereas yor Lo<sup>s</sup>. suppliant is seased of an estate of inheritance of a great quantitie of mearrishe & drowned grounds late parcells of the possessions of the

\* Acts of P. C., 21 March, 1588.

† In the Register of the Norwich Walloon Church this name is spelt Agache.

‡ A Commissioner of Sewers in 1574. Sir William was 4th son of Francis, 2nd Earl of Bedford. He was created Baron Russell, of Thornhaugh, in 1603, and died in 1613. His only son Francis succeeded to the Barldom in 1627.

Monastery of Thorney in the Countie of Cambridge\* wch at this present are more charge then profit to yo<sup>r</sup> suppliant and greatlie in daunger with their waters in extremities, the partes of Holland in the countie of Lincolne and the Soacke of Wisbiche in the Isle of Elye. Soe it is right honorable that certaine persons of good abillitie & skille in drayninge of mearrishe grounds dwellinge within Northle Hollande beyoande the seas havinge viewed the same grounds wolde inhabite those wastes and remove themselves frome their owne cuntry and endeavor the recoverie thereof in some measure upon certaine condicions to be agreed upon between yor suppliant and them, wherewith all they doe require that those privileges followinge mighte also bee obtained in their behalfe from her Matie by yor honorable meanes.

Imprimis that all the encrease that shall be gotten within the said lande by their great industrie and travill maie bee frome thence carried or transported to any parte or ports within this realme or to marketts faires or martts, maie bee free frome the Queene's takers and of prises sett by her Mat<sup>r</sup> Officers either within liberties or without.

Item that the inhabitants nor their servaunts their abidinge bee not prest to serve in the wars beyond the seas for fortie yeres ensuinge but onlie within the lande.

Item that in regarde of their great chardges in gayninge those drowned grounds and in buildinge upon the same there maye be an assent frome yo<sup>r</sup> LLs. and by yo<sup>r</sup> hon. meanes frome her Mat<sup>r</sup> that they maie be excepted in anie parliaments for tenne yeres ensuinge forthe of acts for subsidewes and that the rate of the tenthhs and fifteenthhs now assessed upon the Toune or lymites of Thorney maie bee contynewed onlie withoute raisinge the same to anie higher rate.

If my good LL. these Hollanders maie bee brought to inhabite that place wch nowe is desolate & unprofitable they will by their succease industrie and skill greatlie encorage the inhabitants adjoyninge who are now doubtful or careless, by their examples to take the like endeavors within their continent of mearrishe groundes wch are deemed by men of arte in measuringe to be above five hundred thousand acres wherebie there would enswe a great encrease of people & wealth within those parts now accompted the weakest place for able personnes or wealthie men within this realme.

The petition was referred to the crown lawyers,† who gave their opinion that "All these be matters concerning the State then matters of law for us to deal in, saving for the leases to be made to these strangers which may not be good unless they become denizens."

Objection was raised that the privileges sought for could not be granted by letters patent, and that an Act of Parliament would be necessary. Nothing was done. It was not till 1630 that the Earl of Bedford engaged in the scheme for the drainage of the Great Level of the Fens; and at that time it seems that the Hollanders were lured to cast in their lot with Vermuyden and the "Participants," who had undertaken the

\* The grant of the site of the Monastery to John Lord Russell was in 1549. It included about 7,000 acres of ground in Karr fenn, Mary's fenn, Torrers and le Gores fenns, and farms at Thorney Barre and Northey.

† J. Popham, Attorney General; J. Egerton, Solicitor General.

drainage of Hatfield Chace; but there were a good many Walloons about Whittlesey and Thorney in 1650, when Sandtoft church was destroyed, and the strangers migrated to Thorney.\* Sir Theodore Turquet de Mayerne, a French Protestant, physician to King James I. in 1611, obtained a grant of several thousand acres of fen ground at Whittlesey, and many of the Walloon families of that district owe their change of domicile to the drainage scheme of Sir Theodore. The Minister of the strangers was maintained by an acreage charge of 12*d.* on the ground cultivated by members of the community, provided that he was not to receive more than £80 a year. He found it difficult to collect £50. The agents of the Earl of Bedford induced many of these strangers to hold land at Thorney, and they then contributed to the church there. Perhaps there was no rent to pay. The soil was poor enough. In 1622, one of the Commissioners of Sewers, who resided near Peterborough, describes Thorney fen as "a black spongy meere holding water and only dried by summer's heat. It breeds no good grass and the soil so cold and spongy that a beast lying thereon will rise again wet sided and yet no water to be seen." He thought drainage would never pay, "for nothing can drive tenants thither but extremity of drought." He did not reckon with the Walloon. Many had sunk good money in that fen.† "An experiment was made to burn fodder for ashes to make allome and to that end certain persons bought the crop of 3000 acres of the best fodder ground at 12*s.* an acre yet they are vanished with the smoke and do hazard no more." The only good word the Commissioner has is for Barr Pasture. That was good ground.‡

\* G. Du Perier, a Protestant Minister, was at Whittlesey in 1646. Peter Bontemps, minister at Sandtoft, came with his flock to Thorney. In 1682, Michael David, of Geneva, was at Thorney.

† S.P. Dom. Jac. I. 128. This Commissioner was the author of some verses which have been attributed to Mr. Fortrey.

‡ Barr Pasture farm adjoins Willow Hall farm. These farms were occupied by Walloon families for a long time. The Balleuls or Baillys of Willow Hall have been chronicled by Judge Bailly, of Westminster County Court, who presided on the Bench when 90 years of age. It might be expected that the strangers would have introduced some Dutch or French terms in the vernacular of the Fens. Thirty years ago the retort of "a breeding" was, "I count it's all your flummery," i.e., tricks, for which the French is "flannerie": but "flummery" was in use in the 18th century.

A less gloomy view of Thorney and the work of the settlers there is given by Gregorio Leti in his history of Great Britain, entitled "*Teatro Britannico*." It appears that the Earl of Bedford sought to obtain the approval of King Charles II. to the settlement of strangers at Thorney by presenting his Majesty with a team of red deer, the principal inhabitants of the Isle. Leti\* thus refers to the circumstance:—

Quando il Signor Conte di Bedford prese la risoluzione di dar queste terre per farle dissecare; trovo una curiosa inventione, havendo fatto domare sei de' piu grossi cervi, col tenerli chiusi per qualche tempo, in un continuo strepito di tamburri, usolini e altri instrumenti, che domati con questo mezo, e apparecchiati al tiro d'una carrozza, ne fece poi presente al Re' Carlo primo.

"When the Earl of Bedford determined to drain the land he adopted the strange device of training six of the largest deer and keeping them shut up some time he tamed them by the constant sounding of drums harps and other instruments then harnessed them like a set of coach horses and presented them to the King Charles I."

A coach and six stags would attract a good deal of attention jingling down Whitehall, harnessed tandem fashion. The royal licence was enough to warrant the settlement of the Walloons. The King could exempt them from the Ecclesiastical control by virtue of his Royal Supremacy; little else was wanted; the Muster master was unlikely to look for recruits at Thorney.† They "planted" themselves there and the Earl took care of them.

Leti describes their practice of burning the peat in order to make it productive, and he notices the introduction of coleseed.

Dissecarono una bona parte di terra, la coltivarono et vi cominciarono a seminare certi Cavoli Selvatici detti Colzat da quali se ne cava certo oglio che serve molto non solo per la lampa ma per quei che lavorano in lana.

"They have drained a good quantity of land, and have cultivated it, and therein have sown a kind of wild colewort

\* An able Italian who writes in an easy style. The homes and habits of the English people are well described in his "*Teatro*"; but it gave offence to the Court, and was vigorously suppressed. It is in 2 volumes. 4<sup>o</sup>: London, 1682: dedicated to "Carlo II monarca invincibile nell' oceano Re di Inghilterra." There is a Flemish edition, 5 vols. 8<sup>o</sup>, 1684.

† The Muster Master would not enrol aliens. Their children would serve by allegiance of birth. At Norwich, in the Muster of 1621, the Dutch Company was 88 strong; J. van Berten was captain, Marcus Baelde lieutenant, and F. Daekets ensign bearer. Of the Walloon Company, 70 strong, Joel Sormesaux was captain, F. des Marets, lieutenant, and S. Caubre ensign.

called coleseed from which they press oil which serves well not only for the lamp but also to wash wool with."

The peat was burnt for manure, and cut into "turves" to serve as firewood and his nostrils were full of the smoke from the twitch-heaps. He ends his account thus:—

*In somma la terra è così facile da bruciare che cadendo una scintilla di fuoco di candela s'accende e si stende sino à cinque passi di lunghezza e due piedi in profondo che però il conestabile del luogo ordina di non fumar tabacco per le strade.*

"In short the soil takes fire so easily that if a spark from a candle falls it kindles and spreads for five paces around and to the depth of two feet wherefore the constable of the town has ordered that no one shall smoke tobacco in the street."

You might put out the Dutchman's pipe; and if you left "the Minister" alone they would jog along. So it happened. Their hard work prospered during the Commonwealth, and at the Restoration, when the garb of the French ministers at Thorney, and their church discipline were unwelcome, the proclamation of Charles the Second soothed their apprehensions, and secured the strangers in the exercise of their privileges, till by the friendly aid of time their separate communion was voluntarily resigned, and their race absorbed in the English people.

Charles the Sec<sup>d</sup> by the grace of God &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come greeting Whereas divers persons of ye French nation Walloon and others foreigners of the Reformed Protestant Religion who have been planted and long resided at Thorney in our Isle of Ely and County of Cambridge have humbly besought Us to grant unto them liberty of exercising their religion and discipline in ye church of Thorney in ye French tongue as they have hitherto practised Our will & pleasure is that the said Foreigners whether of the French Walloons or any other nation have and We do hereby accordingly give and grant unto them liberty and free exercise of Religion and discipline in ye church of Thorney aforesaid as it hath hitherto been practised by them w<sup>th</sup> power to make choice of Ministers and officers according to their discipline as hitherto they have done And Our further pleasure is that o<sup>r</sup> R<sup>y</sup> Trusty and R<sup>y</sup> Welbeloved cousin Willm Earle of Bedford owner of ye inheritance of Thorney and his heirs and ye Bishop of that diocese for ye time being have power from time to time of approving of ye Minister and officers so to be chosen And hereof all whom it may concern are to take notice and pay all due conformity to this Our pleasure.

Given at Hampton Court, 13 August 1662.

L.G.

**810.—Skating and the Ring.**—The Whittlesey note-books of John Lamb\* have but few notes about sport. There are one or two descriptions of coursing matches, and the names of some greyhounds and their pedigrees are given. These are not worth reproducing. We give three extracts.

- 1788 18 Dec. The March men meet the Crowland men to skate at the Dog in Doublet. They made a bet to run the March gentlemen: they were so confident that they laid two to one upon Beaton "which Hicklin beat verry easy."
- 1789 6 May. The battle fought between Humphries and Mendoza at Stilton was won by Mendoza. It was thought there were 3000 people.
- 1795 12 Jan. Drake of Chatteris beat Hicklin on the Wash near the Dog in Doublet very easy skating: the odds on Hicklin.

**811.—Whittlesey Notes.**—The following extracts relating to Whittlesey, of a miscellaneous character, form the last instalment from Lamb's note-books.

- 1780 3 Apr. Thomas Grantham and Abraham Fountain stood in the Pillory one hour.
- 1788 The road made first by the order of John Lamb from the Low Church to Mr. Jonson's Malting; and the same year the Low Church repaired by John Lamb, and my seat built; and they were obliged to come to me before they could begin to build Mr. Jonson's, Mrs. Right's, and Mr. Ground's seats, for leave to go up my stairs.
- 21 Dec. Mr. Thos. Aveling said he never knew such a dry time, as he was obliged to fetch water from the river for his stock at his farm in the Turves; and the most wells dry, and the most want of water as ever was known by the oldest man.
- 1789 16 July. Mr. Thomas Ground's dyke drowned so deep that they carried the grass off to make it hay. He said he had it 50 years and never knew it so before. William Biatford's farm so wet that his crop was 4 inches deep, and 9 inches fall at Green Sluice.
- 1790 4 Jan. The establishment of Sunday Schools.
- 1792 The first time the Crop stood 14 days longer than Lammas by consent of the Commoners.
- Stiv<sup>a</sup> Richerson and John Randell did go to most of the Commoners and did persuade them to set their hands to an agreement that the crop in King's Delph should stand 14 days after Lammas Day. I would not hand it.† Mr. Simon Smith said he would stock it; and he gave Joseph Doby orders to cry it on Friday, 27 June, that King's Delph would be stocked on Lammas Day, and all persons that had any crop there for to get it out; and then Mr. Ground and the Commoners called a meeting at the Falcon, and sent William Speechley about next morning for to cry it that if any person stocked King's Delph on Lammas Day, they would be sued: and they did on Monday the 30th get some gentlemen from Yaxley to come to value the crop; and Mr. Thos. Ground and Mr. Maxfield went to Coates to Mr. Simon Smith, and he gave it

\* See Art. 772.

† Sign it, put my hand to it.

in that he would not stock: and on 9 Aug. a Court was called and made a law that no person should put more than one sheep to a common, and no beast nor horse while the 28th. Mr. Robert Asling, that has been a field farmer for three score years, says that the wheat field cost more reaping this year by letting the crop stand in King's Delph, by £60. John Tod took 15 acres of William Hardly at 12 (shillings?) per acre.

1793 Eleven last and a half oats drest in Mr. David Ground's barn near the High Church, and Elizabeth Smith and Alice Brakes filled scuttles, one put them in the screen and the other took them away, from seven in the morning till five in the afternoon.

1795 Friday, 3 July. Four Irish men did the Murder at Mr. Marrit and Mr. Egar's farm in Wisbech Fen; and were taken the Monday after by Samuel Egar and Letts at Uttoxeter, the other side Derby, in Staffordshire.

James Calley, Michael Quin, Thomas Quin, Thomas Markin, were found guilty on 22 Oct., 1795, and hanged 24 Oct., Saturday: and D. Smith had Michael Quin brought to Whittlesey.

3 Aug. Mr. Henry Madwell put his man John Brown in the Round House. Abraham Bates let him have "a Pair of Peckaxe," and he got out. A very great mob carried him in a chair to his master's gate. The next morning his master had him to Wisbech, and left him there. The mob broke Mr. Thorp's windows on 4 Aug. The next day a Court Leet was called to set on Constables. "Them" that had crop in King's Delph made an agreement with the parish to give two hundred pounds to be paid to the Poor Rate for the crop to stand 14 days after Lammas.

1796 14 Aug. Ed. Ground and Wm. David Ground Church Wardens, and there was a Sacrament at S. Mary's Church, and no Churchwardens to attend.

Nov. John Sudbery and John Jonson Church Wardens, and there was a Sacrament at S. Andrew's Church, and no Churchwardens to attend.

9 Dec. The Cavalry drawn at Chatteris. Mr. Thos. Johnson, Mr. John Johnson, Richard Bradley, Sen., William Avling, Farmer, Thos. Gibson, Daniel Sergeant, Attorney, David Ground, John Bishop.

1797 21 Feb. The Cavalry men sworn in at Chatteris.

25 Feb. Mr. Thos. Ground and Mr. Thos. More, of Whittlesey, and Mr. John Wing, of Thorney, sworn as Justices of the Peace at Wisbech; and did do business at the Falcon on Friday, 3 March for the first time at Whittlesey.

28 Feb. The news arrived at Whittlesey that the Bank of England stopped payment and all other Banks.

4 Mar. [Oats offered at Wisbech, but no cash to pay for them] so a great many carried them home; for if you went to the Bank to get cash for £10 they would give you five guinea bill, and two guineas, and a note for the other to take next week.

29 Sep. The first Quarter Sessions in Whittlesey as ever was known held by the Justices of the Peace was held at James Hurry's, at the Falcon, by Mr. Thos. Ground and Mr. Thos. More, Vicar, for Whittlesey.

1798 1 May. James Baker and William Read, Constables, went about the town to take all the persons' names down from fifteen to sixty.

6 June. At a meeting at Mrs. Barnes's, Mr. Thos. Jonson was chosen Captain for the Cavalry, Mr. John Jonson, Lieutenant, and Mr. David Ground, Cornet.



13 June. The greatest fair of beast as ever was known by the oldest person in the town; more than 300.

The High Church and the Low Church in the above have no reference to ecclesiastical parties. These names have been long in use to describe respectively S. Mary's Church, with the lofty spire, and S. Andrew's, with the low tower.

**812.—Some Early Soham Wills.**—In the District Probate Registry at Bury S. Edmunds are some sixty volumes containing copies of wills of Bury and of the Archdeaconry of Sudbury. Each volume takes its name from the name of the testator whose will is in the first page. I forward notes of a few belonging to Soham.

Thomas Peyche of Soham: c. 1475. Hervey fo. 86.

To the chapel of Our Lady in the highway 3s. 4d.

Nothing is known of this Chapel in the Highway. I supposed at one time that it meant the chapel at Barway: but the reference in this and the following will prove that this was not so.

Peter Salisbury of Soham: c. 1520. Fuller fo. 123.

To the reparation of Our Lady chapel in the street 6s. 8d. To make "a chymney in ye Allmes howse of our lady" 6s. 8d. To the gild of Corpus to pray for me and my friends. To the "leythe of S. John Baptist yn my paryshe cherohe" 3s. 4d. To reparation of church of Soham, and to a priest to sing for my soul and my friends' souls 8 marks. This priest to sing before Our Lady of Pity for one year.

This seems to show that one of the chapels in the parish church was dedicated to S. John the Baptist; and this would help to explain the confusion as to the dedication of the church. But all the old wills speak of the church as dedicated to S. Andrew.

Nicholas Johnsonne of Barroway: 1586. Bright fo. 89.

To be buried where it may please God to appoint. To my wife Dorothe my free close in Barrway of about 4 acres for life; then to Joane my daughter and her heirs: if she die without issue to my brother William Johnsonne and his heirs. To each of the said William's three children 5s. To Agnes Tyler 5s. To the poor of Barroway 20s. To every one of my godchildren 12d. Residue equally between my wife and my daughter Joane. Witnesses, John Jackson the younger of Thetford, Robert Goddard (?), Thomas Hobbs, Minister of Thetford.

John Bugge of Soham, labouring man: 1586. Bright fo. 62. Nuncupative.

To Thomas Dorrant my black two year old heifer. To Thomas Bugge my godson one weanling calf. To John Terrell son of Agnes Terill one weanling calf. To Robert Dorrant 4s. To Alice Spillman a pair of sheets price 2s. Residue to Alice my wife and her heirs. Also to Alice my wife "my cople in the Brooke which I hold of Mr. Payne; and he did deliver surrender thereof into the hands of John Peachie of ye Holmes to her use there." Thus the testator "willed and did, being in perfect minde and memorie, the evening before he died in presence of us, who since his death caused this to be written."

John Peachie, John Croplic at Ashe, John Tebolt, Thompsonne Junior,

William Peachye of Barway: 1543. Longe fo. 378.

To be buried in churchyard of Soham. To Barway chapel 20s. "To make a causey from the said chappell to the house I did dwell in" 6s. 8d.

Thomas Wrighte of Barway: 1544. Cole fo. 598.

To be buried at Soham. To high altar at Soham 12d. "I will that Margaret Wrighte my mother-in-law shall have one aungell noble to be given to the chappell of Barrowaye to pray for my soule as she thinks best." Witness, Sir James Marle (Wake?), priest of Barrowaye.

Davyd Johnson of Barroway: 1550. Buxton fo. 50.

To be buried "where it shall please the Lord." "To Marget my wyffe 3 mylche bullocks which she brought to me . . . I gyve to her 1 mylch bullocke and all she brought with hyr, and the seyde bullock to be kept by Nycholas my son tyll wynter be done. I gyve to Wyllm my son, one house with the . . . beyng copyhold of the lord of barroway, and I have given surrender of the said house unto the hands of Wyllm Copper, to the use of Wyllm my sonne. I have given to the same Wyllm 1 cowe, 1 heckforth, 1 mayer, and 1 wygell. I give to my daughter Margret, 1 cowe, 1 yerelinge calf, and in money xxvi<sup>s</sup>. viii<sup>d</sup>. to be payd by my executor at the day of her marryage." Witnesses, William Copper, William Lombard, Thomas Brown, Thomas Webster, all of Barrowaye.

Thomas Brown of Barrowaye: dated 12 May 6 Edw. VI, Buxton fo. 149.

To be buried as it shall please the Lord. To Agnes my daughter one bullock and 20s. And "if any of my seyde bretherne will take my seyde chyld I will that they shall have the bullocke and the seyde money, and the name of the seyde bullocke ys called yonge bryndell." To William . . . my godson 12d. Residue to my wife Agnes, executrix. Witnesses, John Byllm (?), William Cowper, Edward Wake, and others.

Robert Oryell of Barwaie: 1558. Bell fo. 395.

To be buried in churchyard of Soham. To John Mathewe my uncle my black cow "being but of two calves." Also to him my best coat and hose. To my brother Robert Calthorpe (?) the biggest of my yearling calves. To Maude my wife my free house (writing almost illegible here). To her also my book. To Margaret my sister the "cosar (?) that I had awaie from her when she left my house." To Alice my wife's daughter my brown bald calf. Residue to my wife Maude, sole executrix.

Agnes Syer of Soham: 1539. Pope fo. 71.

To my daughter Agnes my best gown. To Margery my son's wife two "kyrtyle," two petticoats, a coverlet, a pair of harden sheets, the best pan. To Agnes . . . a sheet of three yards. To Peter Salisbury a sheet. To Rychard Gore a sheet. To Margerye my son's wife "a hatte and cappe

that I were everye holy daya." To Agnes Dey my best hat. To Johanne Salisbury's daughter my green silken robe.

John Cropley of Soham: 1540. Pope fo. 267.

To high altar 2s. To reparation of church 6s. 8d. To mending of highways in Hall Street 6s. 8d. To poor on burying day 6s. 8d., and at his 80th day 6s. 8d.

William Voyce of Soham: 1541. Pope fo. 233.

To high altar 12d. To reparation of church 6s. 8d. To mending of highways 6s. 8d.

William Fishe of Thornstrete: c. 1542. Pope fo. 249.

To high altar 12d. To common light to be maintained in Church of S. Andrew 10s. To maintaining light of S. John 10s. To mending of highways within the town of Soham 20s. To reparations of the church 20s.

John Norfolke, husbandman: 1558. Bell fo. 440.

To high altar a bushel of barley. Towards reparations of church 6s. 8d. next Easter. Mentions land in Burrie Croft, Metlam, Downe Field, Bancroft, and Barcham. A solemn dirge and mass of requiem at his burying day, the poor to have 20s.

Rycharde Kanam of Soham: dated 10 Jan., 1570, proved at Mildenhall 12 Apr., 1570. Aldrich fo. 7b.

In the name of God Amen. The Xth days of January in the yeare of our Lorde God a thousande fyve hundrethe threscore and tenne, I, Rycharde Kanam, of the towne of Some, in the county of Cambridge, laborer, beyng in perfytt mynde and good remembrance, thancks be to God, thus makethe my laste will and testament as hereafter followethe: Fyrst, I bequethe my soule vnto Allmyghti God; and my body to be buried in the churche yarde of St. Andrewe in Some aforesaide. Fyrst I gyve and bequeth vnto John Kanam my sonne one blacke stered heckforde of the age of two yeres and the advantage, and one payer of shetes of hemptre and one pair of harden \* shetes, two pewter platters, and one candlestycke, Item, I gyve and bequethe vnto Anne Kenam my daughter one black heckforde of two yeares age and the vantage and one payer of sheets of hemptery, and one payer of sheets of harden, two pewter platters, and one latten † candlestycke, and a lyttle coffer. ‡ Item, I gyve and bequethe vnto Joane Kenam my daughter one bed as hit stondethe in my chamber, withe a vnderclothe and my best coverlet, with a payer of shetes withe the hanginge of the same bed, and one payer of shetes of hemptren, and one berynge sheet, ij pewter platters, and one latten candlestycke, my grete brass panne, one owlde kave § stondynge in the buttre, one table with a payer of tressells, and a thicke forme. Item, I will that my brown mere and geldinge shall be sowlde by my executrix, and the money for them shall be equally deuyded betwyn my wyfe and my thre children by my superuisor. Item, I gyve vnto Thomas Wyllamson ye younger my sorrell meare coult. Item, I gyve vnto John Durrant the younger my best cote. All the rest of my goods and cattalls that I have vnbequethed I gyve wholly vnto Agnes my wyfe, whom I doo ordeine and make my full executrix, and she to paie my detts, and receyue my detts, and fulfill this my last wyll, and to brynge upp my children withall, and to prove this my laste will, and to

\* Harden—coarse flax; Anglo Saxon "Neordan"—refuse of tow.

† Latten—hard mixed metal, much resembling brass, exact composition unknown.

‡ Coffor—chest, trunk or box.

§ A large tub or vessel used in brewing is called a "keeve" in the west of England.

see me honestly brought to the grownde, as my trust ys in her. Item, I doo ordeyne and make Thomas Wylliamson the elder my supervisor or overseer to see this my last will be fulfilled. Wytnes to this my last will, Thomas Wylliamson, John Durrant the elder, John Durrant the younger.

Those that follow are from the Consistory Court of Norwich.

William Begy (or Bogy), vicar of Soham: dated the feast of S. George the Martyr (23 Apr.), 1442. No probate, but it must have been proved before 1444. In Latin. Doke fo. 179.

To the church of Soham 33s. 8d., and two vestments. To the chaplain there 8 marks for a year to sing for my soul. To the college of S. Benedict at Cambridge (now Corpus Christi) 40s. To Clare Hall there 20s. For the stone and reparation of my vicarage £5. Residue of messuages and lands I leave in the hands of my sister Christian Brosyerd, sole executrix.

John Sly, vicar of Soham: dated 30 Aug., 1470, proved 8 Nov., 1470. In Latin. Jekkys fo. 189.

Considering that I am now of a great age, &c. I make this my testament, commending my soul to God, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostle S. Andrew, and all the Saints. My body to be buried in the porch of the church next William Buggey. To the high altar a cloth of dyaper, to cover the same, with my vestment of blood colour for the use of my church. To the repair of the church, 20s. To the parish church of Clopton by Shingay, a processionale, that the parish may pray for my soul. To the monks of Thetford, an iron pot. To my kinsman, Dns. Radulphus Sly, chaplain, my great portifory, and my largest manuale for his life, and then to Soham Church. To him also a cloak (*toga*) of crimson with *capitium*. To my uncle John Sly a *toga* of violet. Among 10 poor people, 8s. To repair the way next Robt. Prentyse's, 6s. 8d. To Thos. Bestney, my godson 10s., and to his father a pair of beads. To Helen Sly, a dish at her choice. To William Nele, a kettle with a spout and 13s. 4d. To John Palmer, a quarter of barley. To John Canam, my godson, a coverlet, a blanket, and a pair of sheets. Dns. Radulphus Sly to celebrate for my soul. Exors, Ralph Sly, John Sly. Witnesses, Magister John Todd, Andrew Bugge, John Whyte, John Pamer, John Hyll.

Thomas Gore of Soham: dated 21 Aug., 1473, no probate. Caxton fo. 247.

Being in my whole mind, &c., I commend my soul to Almighty God, and our Lady, and all the Saints. My body to be buried in the churohyard of S. Andrew the Apostle, at Soham. My principall to be paid after the custom of the town. To the high altar, 3 bushels of barley. To the rood-loft a comb of malt. To the chapel by the highway, a "schete." To the Friars preachers in Cambridge, 10s. Alys, my wife, to have tenement for life, and my son William to have it after her death for 10 marks. If wife re-marries, she is to have the best cart and son William the other. To the highways, 6s. 8d. The residue to my attorneys, viz., my wife Alice, my brother Simonde Gore. Overseer, John Wake. Witnesses, William Warner, Andrew Cooke, William Swayn.

William Yaxle the elder of Soham in Norwich diocese: dated 4 June, 1496, proved 26 Sep., 1497, in the chapel within Hoxne Manor. Typpes fo. 132.

To be buried in churchyard of S. Andrew at Soham. To the high altar 12d. "To the taking down of the shafte of the stepill, 10s.; and in case the township of Soham will make a shafte ageyn of ston upon the same fundacon then I will the township of Soham aforesaid have to the making of same shaft, 30s. more;" and in case the township will not make it again on same foundation, then the above 30s. to be void and to go to the four houses (of Friars?) of Cambridge equally among them to pray for my soul, for Alys my wife, and my father's and mother's. As much stone to be laid in the highway betwixt Wm. Yaxle the younger and William Norfolk the elder as shall "drawen" 10s. To Alis my sister 20d. a quarter to her invention and keeping during her life, also best pair of sheets, coverlets, &c. To Richard my son the chamber he is in for life. I have sold to Richard Yaxle my lake called Balystre lake with a stryngye lying on the south side of said lake on condition that Richard Yaxle pays to priest of Jesus-Mass, 12d. Residue to Richard Yaxle and John Bette, exors. Witnesses, Richard Bonde, William Yaxle the younger, John Rede.

John Smyth, clerk: dated 25 March, 1496, proved 26 Sep., 1497, in the chapel within Hoxne Manor. Types fo. 132.

To be buried in the churchyard of S. Andrew the Apostle in Soham. "Myn principall to be myn best sterc, as the custome of the towne." To the high altar, a quarter of barley. To S. John's gild, a quarter of barley. To S. Peter's gild, a combe of barley. To Isabell my daughter, 2 acres of land, kine and calves, and one quarter of barley; and to her children one quarter of barley. To Richard my child, a combe of barley and a calf. To Isabel my daughter, brass pewter, small stuff and clothes. Residue to my son Robert, sole executor. Testator charges him to bring him to "the yerde" and to have 8 solemn diriges and the yere day of John Smith, and Margaret his wife. "Jhesu have you all in His keeping. Amen."

William Perleby of Soham: dated 12 July, 1502, proved 16 Sep., 1502. In Latin. Register 1502, fo. 153b.

To be buried in the Churchyard of the Church of S. Andrew the Apostle in Soham. To the high altar, 12d. Katherine, my wife, to have message in "le Broke Street," with lands, &c., for life: then to daughter Agnes. To have  $4\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land of Sawet lake and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  of meadow at Bangcroft; and whoever holds the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land in Bury croft is to pay to the gild of Corpus Christi 12d. a year. To the reparation of the new bell-tower, in "Some" aforesaid, 40s. To the reparation of the same, 20s. To the Chapel of S. Nicholas in Barway, 10s. To my wife Katharine, one acre of land in Nowditch, against land of late William Marshall, on north, on land of the son of Susan Keley on east, and the south head abuts on the common way leading towards the town of "Wykyn." The wife of Edmund Wake to have the message in Brook Street, after my wife's death. I desire a trental of S. Gregory to be sung at Cambridge. Residue to my exors., Edmond Wake and Wm. Pech. Witnesses, Richard Bond, Robert Smyth, Ed. Wake, senior.

J. R. OLORENSHAW.

**813.—The Heron's Frank.**—The following cutting is from *The Standard* of 20 May last:—

An extraordinary scene has just been witnessed in the grounds of Milton Park, at Peterborough. A heron, which had been fishing in a pond near Milton House, captured a fine fish, which it brought up struggling at the end of its long bill, when another heron, which had been watching

from the shore, plunged into the water and tried to take away the fish. A desperate combat ensued, as both birds were full grown, powerful, and majestic. They fought with both bill and wing, dealing out hard knocks rapidly, and uttering shrieks of anger. So furiously raged the duel that the combatants raised quite a cloud of feathers round them. Suddenly one rolled over, and the other, uttering a victorious "frank," the heron's peculiar cry, and gathering up its long legs, soared to the trees, where it began preening its disordered plumes. An examination proved that the other bird had been killed outright, and it was the would-be robber, too.

Is the word "frank," here given as a recognised word, known to your readers as a provincial term? or is it a term in falconry? I do not find it in the Northamptonshire Glossaries of Baker or Sternberg: nor is it in any dictionary I have consulted, Grose, Bailey, Johnson, Nuttall. G. TALBOT.

#### 814.—Monumental Inscriptions in Elm Church.—

1.—On floor of nave, a square brass at the head with arms, Barry of eight, over all a bend ermine; crest, some animal holding a leafy twig in its mouth:—*MIHI HERI HODIE TIBI Sub hoc marmore depositæ sunt exuviæ mortales viri dignissimi RICHARDI FINCHAM qui vitam non Reliquit sed mutavit 24<sup>o</sup> die Novembris Ann Salutis nræ 1667<sup>o</sup> Ætatis suæ 50.*

*Per vitam ad mortem transitus.*

*Per mortem ad vitam reditus.*

2. Next the last:—*Hic Situs est THOMAS SQUIRE Generosus Huius Villæ Incola Annos Natus 52. Denatus Est Martij 19 die Anno 1689.*

3. Next the last:—*Sub hoc Marmore Inhumatur MARGARITA Vxor THOMÆ SQUIER Generosi Filia IOHANNIS WALSHAM de March Generosi Obiit Sept: 23 Anno Domini 1676.*

4. Next to last:—*Hic jacet THOMAS SQUIER filius primogenitus THOMÆ SQUIER et MARGARITÆ Vxoris Sepultus fuit Decembris 20 Annoq Domini 1676.*

5. Next to last:—*Sub hoc Marmore Inhumatur RICHARDUS BAYNES et Vxor Ejus ADALITIA una cum RICHARDO filio Denatus Ille 17<sup>o</sup> Die Februarij Denata Ille (sic) 4<sup>to</sup> Die Martij Anno Domini 1694.*

6. On tablet in chancel:—*Sacred to the Memory of MARY the Wife of JOHN EDES Esq<sup>r</sup>. Who departed this Life on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January 1807 Aged 47 Years & 8 Months.*

7. On tablet in Chancel:—To the Memory of JOHN EDES Esq<sup>r</sup> (formerly of Woodhouse Farm in this Parish, and late of Wisbech St. Peter's) who died on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1824. Aged 73 Years. He was one of the acting Magistrates of the Isle of Ely, Deputy Lieut<sup>t</sup>. of the County of Cambridge, Conservator of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Corporation of Bedford Level, in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Norfolk, and many years in succession one of the Capital-Burgesses of the Town of Wisbech. His public Character was distinguished by Zeal and Integrity, and his private life by Humanity and Friendship. To perpetuate the remembrance of departed worth this Stone is placed by his sorrowing Friend and Partner H. J. NICHOLLS.

8. On floor of chancel:—

16

WILLIAM  
DRURY filius  
Buried April y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup>  
87

9. Over priest's door, which is now at the extreme end on the north side, the chancel having been shortened 15 feet, on a tablet:—Near this place are deposited the Remains of the Reverend CHARLES CLARKE (Son of RUPERT CLARKE Esq<sup>r</sup>. and DOROTHEA his Wife). He was born at Kensington, Middlesex, February 20<sup>th</sup> 1718, Educated in St. Mary's College, Winton. Was afterwards of Baliol College, Oxford, Chosen a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries London, 1751, Collated to the Vicarage of Elm cum Emneth 1762, And died November 16, 1780. (At the foot are these arms: Gules on a fess or, between three cinquefoils ermine, as many swan's necks [?] sable, in middle chief a goat rampant argent facing sinister.)

10. On north wall:—Within these sacred walls are deposited the remains of JOHN RUSSELL CHRISTOPHERSON, L.L.B. Rector of Grainsby and Vicar of Eagle, and thirty years resident curate of this parish; he died October 20<sup>th</sup> 1844, Aged 75.

11. On north wall:—In memory of HENRY JAMES NICHOLLS, Esq<sup>r</sup> formerly of Woodhouse in this parish, afterwards of Wisbech, and late of Hartford in the County of Huntingdon, who departed this life the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1840 in his 70<sup>th</sup> year: He was a Deputy Lieutenant, a magistrate for the Isle of Ely, and the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon, and highly esteemed for his public services.

12. In south aisle:—In Memory of DAVID WAITE late of Wisbeach St Peter's in the Isle of Ely Esq<sup>r</sup>. who Died the first day of February 1766, Aged 75 Years. He was Several Years one of the Deputy Lieutenants for the County of Cambridge, and in the Commission of the Peace for the County of Norfolk, and also for the Isle of Ely and behav'd with great Integrity and Reputation, in the Discharge of the Duties of those High and Honourable Trusts. And also of ANN the Wife of DAVID WAITE aforesaid, who was Daughter of JOHN KELSALL of Wisbeach aforesaid Esquire, by ANN his Wife and Grand Daughter of ROBERT BALAM of this Parish Esquire and Died the 5<sup>th</sup> day of July 1752. They Lived together in uninterrupted Tenderness, and Union of Mutual Affection, and left Issue two Daughters, JANE and ANN both surviving them. (Arms:—On a fess between three mullets of six points as many besants, impaling, Ermine a bend engrailed.)

13. Below the west end of south aisle is large mausoleum for the families of Marshall and Jackson. On a tablet here:—To the Memory of JOHN GODDARD Esq<sup>r</sup>. Who served the office of High Sheriff for the Counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon in the year MDCCLXVI. His many virtues and excellent Qualities are too deeply engraven On the Hearts of his Friends and Relations to need a Monumental Inscription. Suffice it therefore to say that he died sincerely regretted the XXIX of October MDCCLXXXVII Aged LXIII Years. SARAH the beloved Wife of JOHN GODDARD Esq<sup>r</sup>. after a Life of Piety and Charity died truly lamented the XI of January MDCCLXXX, Aged XLVII Years.



14. In floor:—In Memory of the Rev<sup>d</sup>. JOHN RUSSELL CHRISTOPHERSON, LL.B. of Corpus Christi College Cambridge, who died the 20<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>r</sup>. 1844 Aged 75 Years, He succeeded his Father as Rector of Grainsby, and Vicar of Eagle, in the County of Lincoln, and from 1804 to 1834 was Minister of this Parish. His Widow CAROLINE MARY, survived him until the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1845 died in the 64<sup>th</sup> Year of her Age, and lies buried by his side. (See No. 10.)

15. A stone, partly covered, to the Rev. JOHN NEWSOM, A.M., 31 years vicar, and 12 years Rector of Connington, 1762, aged 65.

There are also tablets (full inscriptions not copied) to Mary Ann Jackson, daughter of Robert and Ann Willan, of Cardington, who died 8 Jan., 1849, aged 68: to her husband the Rev. Jeremiah Jackson, who was son of Hugh and Jane Jackson, of Duddington, once Fellow of S. John's College, Cambridge, 32 years Vicar here, who died 24 Sep., 1857, aged 82: and to the Rev. Henry Jackson, Incumbent of Wisbech S. Mary, who died 24 March, 1863, aged 54.

There are also memorial windows to (1) W. C. Hanson, Vicar, who died 1 Sep., 1863; (2) J. Jackson, M.A., M. A. Jackson, Henry Jackson, M.A., Frances Jackson, and Ch. W. Jackson, erected by the Incumbent of Wisbech S. Mary, son of the two first named; (3) Edward Jackson, who died 4 Apr., 1871; and (4) Caroline Jane Jackson, who died 22 June, 1866.

Ed.

815.—**Farm Inventory, 1786.**—Mr. S. Egar sends a newspaper cutting with an inventory of farming stock taken 113 years ago. The inventory itself was once in his possession. It is interesting as shewing the value of live and dead stock at the time. Mr. Bridges' farm, at Knarr Fen, Thorney, now occupied by Mr. W. Bullock, was a large one; and on that account the value of the furniture of the dwelling—total estimate, £15 9s. 0d.—supports the theory of some that farmers in the

last century did not have the same luxuries in their houses as farmers of the present day.

[Stamps] AN INVENTORY of all and singular the Goods and Chattels of the late William Bridges of Thorney Abbey in the Isle of Ely. Taken the third Day of May One thousand seven hundred and Eighty six by John Congreve and Thomas Goddard.

|                                     | £    | s  |   | £    | s  |
|-------------------------------------|------|----|---|------|----|
| Purse and Apparel .....             | 10   | 0  | Brot. up .....                                    | 421  | 10 |
| 17 yearling Sheep & a<br>Tup .....  | 18   | 18 | Ten Hogs .....                                    | 7    | 10 |
| 6 yearling Calves .....             | 12   | 12 | *4 Last of best Oats .....                        | 24   | 0  |
| 8 Three year old Beast ...          | 48   | 0  | two Last of do.....                               | 10   | 0  |
| 2 Heifers .....                     | 10   | 0  | Farming Utensils in Barn, &c. ....                | 2    | 14 |
| 54 Ewes and Lambs.....              | 48   | 12 | Harness for 4 Horses .....                        | 2    | 0  |
| 1 Mare & Foal called Rose           | 10   | 0  | two Plows, 3 Harrows.....                         | 3    | 8  |
| Grey Mare.....                      | 5    | 0  | Tackle belonging Do. ....                         | 10   | 0  |
| Riding Mare & Foal.....             | 7    | 0  | Old dairy, 2 milk Leads<br>and a Churn .....      | 2    | 15 |
| Three 2 year old Filies ...         | 21   | 0  | 3 Ladders .....                                   | 0    | 7  |
| Best Waggon .....                   | 5    | 10 | New dairy, 4 milk Leads<br>& dairy utensils ..... | 2    | 0  |
| an old do & Cart .....              | 5    | 0  | Brewing Utensils .....                            | 2    | 0  |
| 43 Lambhogs.....                    | 34   | 8  | Kitchen Furniture .....                           | 0    | 10 |
| 2 yearling Colts .....              | 10   | 0  | Sitting room Furniture ...                        | 0    | 14 |
| 16 Cows & a Bull .....              | 93   | 10 | Parlour Furniture .....                           | 4    | 15 |
| 7 two year old Beast .....          | 21   | 0  | Best Chamber Furniture<br>& Linen .....           | 5    | 0  |
| 10 Calves .....                     | 15   | 0  | Other Chamber Furniture                           | 3    | 0  |
| One poor Heifer .....               | 3    | 0  | Boys room Furniture .....                         | 1    | 0  |
| 6 Young Calves in the<br>Stye ..... | 3    | 0  | Maids room Furniture.....                         | 10   |    |
| 4 working Mares .....               | 40   | 0  |   |      |    |
| Carried up.....                     | £421 | 10 | Total .....                                       | £493 | 18 |

JOHN CONGREVE.  
THOS. GODDARD.

There is an error in adding up the second column. The total of the amounts as here given comes to £503 8s. 0d.

816.—Roos and Cromwell Families.—I shall be obliged if any reader of *Fenland Notes and Queries* can show me the alliance of these families, and the connexion of that of Roos with Kirtton in Holland; for on a most interesting ruin, the entrance evidently of a considerable castle (if we may judge by the moat which surrounded it), are, on the corbels of the external arch, two coats, the baron's apparently Roos, and the femme's Cromwell, quartering Tattershall, representing, probably the owner and his wife.

\* A Last was Ten Quarters.

In the groining within the building are several shields, and their identification may help to prove the alliance required. Unfortunately, all traces of metals or tinctures have disappeared, so I can only give the bearings as I find them.

1. Paly of six, a canton (arm ?).
2. Paly of six, three roses.
3. Three water-bougets (Roos ?).
4. Two lions pass. guard. facing sinister (Littlebury ?).
5. A fesse on a label of five points.
6. A fesse erm. between three water-bougets (Meeres).

If the colour were visible in the first five as it is in No. 6, I should attribute them thus: 1, Basset; 2 (?); 3, Roos; 4, Littlebury; 5, (?); 6, Meeres.

Tradition gives the ruin to Meeres, and the adjacent part of the parish is still called "Kirton Meeres"; and there has been found no record of a Roos ever living in, or possessing an estate in, the parish, whilst they had two large seats within a few miles of it, and would hardly require a third so near them. Had not the arms been so palpably clear on No. 6 shield, I could have imagined the baron's external arms to have been Meeres, and might have thought that the sculptor by accident or ignorance, omitted the fesse between the three water-bougets, which alone marks the difference, in the absence of metals or tinctures, between Roos and Meeres.

I shall be thankful for any information as to the original owner of the ruins or of the arms thereon.

Frampton Hall,  
near Boston.

COL. MOORE, C.B., F.S.A.

**817.—Graham Family.**—I shall be glad of any information concerning a Peter and James Graham, living in Suffolk in the last quarter of last century. They are mentioned in the latter will and settlement of Mr. Colin Innes, of Kilbride, Perthshire, dated 29th December, 1792, which states that Peter Graham had left him a legacy of £100, to procure payment of which he had brought an action against James

Graham, and had got it awarded with £50 of expences. Mr. Innes was brother-in-law of James Graham, Esq., of Leitchtown, in Menteith, who had a younger brother named Patrick, described in the family pedigree as a merchant in Southwark, who died unmarried in 1780. Patrick and Peter being relative names I think the parties referred to are the same, Southwark being a mistake for Suffolk, Peter being called in the settlement, "merchant in the county of Suffolk, South Britain." Mr. Innes had a son called Peter, and his wife's father's name was Patrick.

I shall also be glad to learn anything locally known about the ancestors of Henry Vere Graham, Esq., who, according to the *London Magazine* for June, 1737, "died at Holbrooke Hall, Suffolk." He left two co-heiresses, one of whom carried Holbrook to the Hanmers.

I am aware that only a few Suffolk parishes are within the borders of the Fenland. But the settlement of the Graham family may have been very near the Fenland district, and some members of the family may have strayed over the border.

Carron Hall,  
Grahamston, Stirlingshire.

WALTER M. GRAHAM EASTON.

818.—**Fire at Burwell, 1727 (554).**—A fuller account of this disaster than that given in the half-sheet headed "The Burwell Tragedy," was published in 1769 by Thomas Gibbons, D.D. The title mentions the register of the parish, and the relation of Mr. Thomas Howe, an eye witness (as is related in the article at the reference above), and then proceeds:—"To which account are subjoined some serious and important inquiries relating to the melancholy event, and some observations, designed as a practical improvement of the awful catastrophe." In *British Topography*, 1780, we learn that this Dr. Gibbons was born at Reche, a hamlet of Burwell; and, with reference to his "observations designed as a practical improvement of the awful catastrophe," it is told that he "in a strain of mistaken weak piety, presumes, from this calamity

happening at a puppet-shew, and never to persons preaching and praying, in barns, that such amusements are marked out by the Lord of Heaven as gross misapplications of time."

Who was this Dr. Gibbons? The only person of the name I can find was a dissenting minister, born 1720, died 1785, D.D. of Aberdeen, who was pastor of an Independent meeting in Silver Street, London, and afterwards removed to Haberdashers' Hall. But according to Cooper's *Biographical Dictionary*, he was born at Swaffham, co. Norfolk. There is a Swaffham, in Cambridgeshire, the next parish to Burwell; so it is possible the county named by Cooper may be in error.

Ed.

### 819.—S. John Baptist's Church, Peterborough (796).—

This church narrowly escaped demolition during the Commonwealth. As in the case of the Lady Chapel, the materials were to be for the amendment of the Minster.

These entries occur on the Journal of the House of Commons under date 11 March, 1651:—

The humble Petition of the parishioners of Peterborough in the County of Northampton was this day read.

Resolved,

That the Petitioners be impowered to pull down the Town Church of Peterborough for the amendment of the great Church called the Minster within the City and Borough of Peterborough.

Ordered,

That an Act be brought in for the several purposes desired by the Petition.

Ordered,

That Sir Arthur Heselrig do bring in an Act accordingly.

Ordered,

That the Bells of the said town Church of Peterborough be reserved for the use of the Commonwealth.

The fabric must have been sound at that time, for the church was erected in 1402, when the old church in S. John's Close was ruinous. The Bishop of Lincoln, in his licence to the Abbot for the removal, describes the old church situate "ad finem ville juxta paludem." The Abbot, in his petition to the Bishop, says the inhabitants persisted in coming to mass in the convent, greatly to the disturbance of the devotions of the monks: and when rebuked, "*Ad nos accesserunt multiplicatis*

*vicibus dolentes conquerentes q<sup>d</sup> tempore yemali cum pluvie inundant non possunt sine magna difficultate ecclesiam eorum parochialem Sti Johis Bapt: adire et ecclesiasticis officiis in eadem interesse.*"\*

It was in 1651 that the Act was passed which appropriated the Minster "for the use of the inhabitants of the city in all time to come for the public worship and service of God and for a workhouse to imploy the poorer sort of people in manufactures the said inhabitants at their own costs and charges repairing and maintaining the same."

The proposed Act for demolition dropt. Possibly Sir Oliver St. John stopt Sir Arthur. They were on good terms, and at the time were erecting residences of the same design, the one at Longthorpe out of materials from the Cloisters at Peterborough, and the other at Durham out of the materials of the Bishop's Chapel.

The tower of the new church bore a spire covered with lead, and early in this century the foundations were found to be insecure and other parts decayed. Repairs were commenced, aided by donations. A local Act, 59 Geo. 3, c. lxiii., was passed in 1819 to obtain funds to complete the work. The church rate was not to exceed 1s. 6d. on the full annual value. The Act recites the architect's report on the necessity of removing the spire and blocking the tower arch, in which it is stated

that the internal walls and buttresses of the church and also the interior arches joining the middle aisle being found incapable of supporting the present oak roof and the lead which covers the same, it is proposed to take off the said roof and to put thereon much lighter roof constructed of Memel timber, covering the same with Welsh rag slating to be put on with copper nails, and that the upper windows on each side the middle aisle of the said church are so much decayed as to require new ones which are proposed to be made much lighter, but preserving their gothic character, by which alteration a greater portion of light will be admitted into the said church.

The tower has never been safe. There is this note in the Inventory of Church Goods made 7 Edwd. VI. :—

"Item the sylver crose was sold by the consent of the most parte of the tounne towards the charge of the churche that was

\* Reg. Gyenge, fo. 26.

brokyn w<sup>t</sup> a pynacle falling on church and other necessaryes to one Dyson and y<sup>e</sup> old smythe in the chepsyde to the value of xiiij. xiiij. iiiij<sup>d</sup>."

Speed's map of Peterborough shows S. John's with a spire in 1610; so does Buck's view taken in 1731. The restorers in 1819 hardly preserved the gothic character of the church by the insertion of windows with plain intersecting tracery. May the spire have better fortune.

L. G.

**820.—An Interesting Fossil.**—The discovery of fossil remains of the myocene strata, consisting of the great fish, lizards, and other monstrous forms that fill our minds with astonishment, seems never to cease in the excavations of the Fenland; but the discovery of traces of the great ruminants Mastodon, Elephas, and Rhinoceros, are far less frequent; for although the mesozoic rocks underlay the fen beds, over which old valley gravels are frequently spread, yet such fossils are scarce. Therefore the finding of an immense head of a ruminant in the flood gravels, at a place called Way Head, about three and a half miles northward of Ely, is of some importance. The remains consist of an upper jaw and head, of about four feet in length; a remarkable feature about it being the elongated trunk-like upper lip, which is papillose, and might be an exceedingly leathery thick covering of the bone. The impression is that it belongs to the species *tapirus*, possibly that of *dinotherium*. The upper peat beds of the whole district cover immense forests of pre-historic oaks, larch, yew, and hazel, perfectly preserved in the antiseptic soil; fine antlers of the red deer, and tusks of the wild boar, are common; and among these not unfrequently are found celts of the early and late stone age.

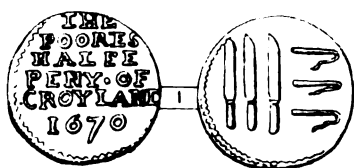
The discovery of the particular head in question was made last June, and it is in the possession of Mr. Mason Cooke, of South Downham, Ely.

— Ely.

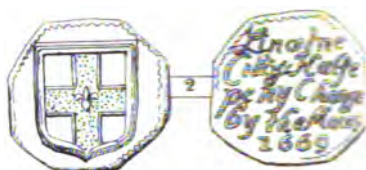
J. TITTERTON.







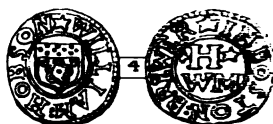
*Crowland*



*Lincoln*



*Spalding*



*Boston*



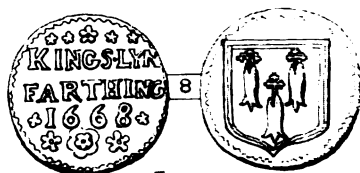
*Stamford*



*Wainfleet*



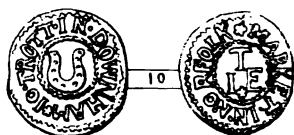
*Long Sutton*



*Lynn*



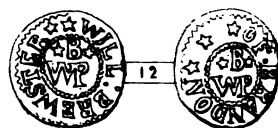
*Stow Bridge*



*Downham*



*Uxwell*



*Brandon*

**821.—Fenland Tokens.**—The Tokens figured in the accompanying illustrations had their origin in the latter half of the 17th century—the earliest, dating from 1648–1650, are scarce. There was a great deficiency in the small currency of the realm at that period, and it was actual necessity which led to the issue of these provincial copper coins—they were needed for the ordinary purposes of business; they mark a time of national trouble and derangement, when people were put to straits in trading matters.\*

Tokens in money were coins issued, under sufferance, by private individuals or overseers, above their intrinsic value, but they were a guarantee of good faith of the issuers to pay in kind the nominal value whenever required. Legal money too is, in a sense, a series of tokens, gold coinage alone being of standard value. The 17th century tokens were of small worth—farthings and half pennies, and no pennies in the early issues.

This monetary system was very general in the Fenland, as in other parts of the kingdom, and the coins herewith figured and described are to be regarded as types of what were used in the whole district. It is probable that the traders who had the enterprise to use their own coinage, had also an eye to advertising as well as to the convenience of exchange.

But we are not informed as to what means were taken to prevent imposition, the smallness of the value was perhaps the best protection. In 1811 and 1812, silver tokens came into use, and then fraud crept into the system.

In the town of March, 1811, the firm of Ratcliffe, Elam, and Thurton employed *one shilling* silver tokens, and issued £50 worth. It was soon discovered that more coins were in circulation than had been issued—these tokens were at once withdrawn and payment refused. It appears however that March had a farthing token in 1820.

\* From the time of Edward VI. to the Commonwealth, the coinage was debased and neglected.

It was some years after the accession of Charles II. that small copper coins were minted, and Tokens were proclaimed (1672).

Near the end of the 18th century the monetary resources of this country were sorely pressed, and the Bank of England could with great difficulty meet cash payments, except in sums under 20s. But the Bank was licensed in 1787, by the Privy Council, to issue Spanish dollars and half dollars, stamped with a small bust of George III., the same that was used by the Goldsmiths' Company for stamping silver plate;\* these were not withdrawn till 1816. In the meantime silver Tokens (issued by royal licence) were largely employed in the provinces, and the Fenland silver Tokens were issued at the following places: March, Holbech, one shilling coins, 1811. Lincoln, 1812. Lincolnshire (with a fleece suspended), 1s. Lynn, dollar 1s. 6d.; also 1s. and 6d. tokens. (1) Peterborough, by Geo. Griffin, 2s., 1812; (2) one with West Front of Cathedral, 1s. 6d.; (3) a 1s. token. Stamford, payable by E. & F. Butt, 1s. 6d. in 1811. These were withdrawn by order of Government in 1813, and none allowed as currency since.

In preparing drawings for the plates I was much indebted to Boyne's *Tokens of the Seventeenth Century*; but Wainfleet, Long Sutton, Downham Market, Upwell, Brandon, Littleport, St. Ives, and St. Neots I sketched from specimens of the tokens lent me by the late Mr. Samuel Smith, of Wisbech.

In the description following, *O.* stands for obverse; *R.* for reverse; and the value of each coin is attached.

#### PLATE I.

##### 1. *Crowland*, $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

*O.* THE POORES HALFE-PENY. CROYLAND. 1670.  
(In 6 lines.)

*R.* Arms of Crowland Abbey, three knives in pale,  
three whips in fess.

\* See also, *Silver Tokens of Gt. Britain and Ireland*, by William Boyne, F.S.A. London, 1866.

2. *Lincoln*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. LINCOLNE CITY HALFPENNY, Chaingd by the  
Maior. 1669.  
R. Arms of Lincoln; on a cross a fleur-de-lys.  
(Octagonal.)
3. *Spalding*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. THE POORE OF SPALDING HALFE PENY. 1667.  
(In 6 lines).  
R. A public building.
4. *Boston*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. WILLIAM HOBSON. Arms of the Hobson family.  
A cinquefoil, a chief checky.  
R. IN BOSTON BREWER. H.W.M.
5. *Stamford*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. A STAMFORD HALF PENY To Be. Arms of  
Stamford; three lions passant gardant, impaling,  
checky.  
R. CHANGED BY YE OVERSEERS. A woolpack.
6. *Wainfleet*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. JOHN SHAW. 1670. The Mercer's Arms.  
R. OF WAINEFLETT. I.R.S.
7. *Long Sutton*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. FRANCIS COBY, 1668. The Mercer's Arms.  
R. IN LONG SUTTON. F.C.  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
8. *Lynn-Regis*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. KINGS LYN. FARTHING 1668 (large).  
R. Arms of Lynn, three conger eels' heads erect, in  
the mouth of each a cross crosslet fitchée.\*
9. *Stowbridge*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. JOHN PRATT OF. A bridge of four arches.  
R. STOW. BRIDGE 1668. HIS HALFPENNY.
10. *Downham Market*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. IO<sup>N</sup> TROTT. IN DOWNHAM. A horse shoe.  
R. MARKET IN NORFOLK I.E.T.
11. *Upwell*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. THOMAS ROBINSON. Crossed Keys.  
R. IN VPWELL 1668. HIS HALF PENY. T.A.R.
12. *Brandon*,  $\frac{1}{2}d$ .  
O. WILL. BREWSTER. W.P.B.  
R. OF BRANDON. W.P.B. S. H. MILLER.  
(A second plate will be given in a future Part.)

\* See Richard's *History of Lynn*, vol. II., pp. 824-5.

**822.—A Bishop's Licence to Shoot.**—The Court party in the reign of Queen Elizabeth preyed upon the See of Ely. Richard Cox, who was Bishop from 1559 to 1580, charged by Lord North "with covetous and corrupt practices," vindicated his conduct, but he was obliged to cede a manor to his accuser; and again in 1575 he was compelled to cede Ely Place to Sir Christopher Hatton. The Bishop must have been poor enough, yet the cormorants of the Court vowed "he lived on powdered venison." This jest owes its origin to a licence to shoot game which the Bishop obtained from the Queen in 1567. His lordship might have gone out shooting himself, but a licence was necessary to enable him to kill game by his servants or gamekeepers. An Act of 6 Henry VIII., c. 13, recited that the King's subjects delight too much in shooting in cross bows and hand guns, whereby the King's deer are destroyed; and enacted that no person should thenceforth shoot with any cross-bow or hand gun, unless he have lands to the yearly value of 300 marks. The profits of sporting hardly recompensed the Bishop for the loss of the manors. Disgust with the Court party induced him to petition the Queen to be allowed to resign his See. Permission was granted on 16 Feb., 1579.

The royal licence to shoot serves to show what kind of game was likely to be found in the Fens in the 16th century. It is given in the State Papers, Dom. Add. Eliz. ix. 29. L.G.

Elizabeth by the grace of God &c. To the Tresorer, Barons and other Our officers of Our Exchequer justices Mayors sheriffes eschetors constables bayliefs and all other officers and mynisters and subjects to whom thies presents shall com and to every of them greeting Knowe ye that we of our especiall grace certayne science and mere motion have graunted licence and by thies presents do lycense and gyve full power and authoritie unto the right reverend father in God Richard Lord Bussopp of Elye that he at his will and pleasor during his lief shall and may by his wryting under his seale assigne graunt and appoynt one or two of his servants such as he shall pleas and thinke meet to shote and exercise and use shooting in any hand gonne within the said Isle of Elye any tyme at any redd or fallow deare, crane, herneshewe, shovelard, bustard, mallard, teale, curlew, pheasant, woodcocke, or conies or any other kynd of game foule or thing and such handgonne to keep in his house or ther houses or lodging place or places without any daunger payne penalty losse or forfeiture specified in any act statute proclamacon or ordynance heretofore made concerning

shooting in any gonne or gones And that the said Richard Busshopp of Elye may also from tyme to tyme at his libertie and pleasur when he shall thinke requisite and convenient revoke by his wryting under his seale his said assignment or assignments license and licenses And thereupon we will and graunt to the said Richard Busshop of Elye full power and authorytie to appoynt and make by his wryting under his seale any one or two other of his servants to shote in any hand gonne And the same to beare and kepe in like maner and forme as is before expressed without any daunger losse or forfeiture And that such license and licenses graunt or graunts so to be made by the said Richard Busshopp of Elye shalbe as vailable and of as much strength for the said person or persons and every of them to all intents purposes and instrucons as though the same licence or licenses had bene by us and in our name by our letters patents under our greate seale of England made and graunted to the same person or persons and every of them so to be named by the said Richard Busshop of Elye in maner aforesaid And that every such person or persons and every of them in maner aforesaid to be appointed by said Richard Busshopp of Elye shall not be reputed or taken to be within the daunger of any act, statute, proclamacon or thing made or to be made or had against or concerning shooting in any hand gonne or hand gones And of Our furder grace certayne knowledge and mere motion we do lycence and graunt power to the said Richard Busshopp of Elye at all tymes and tyme when he shalbe present to appoint and cause anie of his servants to shote in any hand gonne at any deare or foule above expressed mark or game at his libertie without any prejudice perill or forfeiture to be had or susteyned by him or any of them in this behaulf Provided alwaies that no person or persons by the said Richard Busshopp of Elye to be appointed to shote in forme aforesaid shall shote in any Our forests chaces or parkes or warrens at any conies deare pheasant partridge or other game or any of the parkes forests chaces or warrens belonging to any our subjects without the licence of the owner or owners of the same Wyllyng and comandyng you and every of you to permyt and suffer all such person and persons as shall be hereafter by the said Richard Busshopp assigned to shote as is aforesaid to use and quyetly to enjoy the hole effect of the said license and licenses by him to be graunted according to the tenor aforesaid without any yor let impedymnt deniall reducon or contradicon any act statute provision, course, custom, order or comandment to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding without expresse mencon &c. In wytness &c.

**823.—Woodston or Woodstone ?**—The parochial and municipal authorities have for some years adopted the latter form for the spelling of the name of this parish. From time to time protests have been made, various reasons being given why the former should be deemed more correct. As a new ordnance map of the district is in preparation, it may be well to consider the point, so that the modern error, if it be one, should no longer be authorised. On a previous occasion a communication was made to the Ordnance Department on the subject. A reply was made that they had the authority of the Rector, and of the parish registers. The late Rector, now

Rector of Stoke, Ipswich, Canon Tompson, was a well-known favourer of the spelling with the final *e*. I spoke to him once on the subject, when he admitted that I might be right in my view, but that the look of the word Woodstone was so much prettier than Woodston, that he hoped this latter would not be generally adopted. If, when he gave the parochial registers as his authority, he meant those of the present century, he was no doubt correct. But if he implied that the ancient registers spelt the name with the final *e*, he was under a misapprehension, as will be seen.

Consider, in the first place, that the parish is in the midst of a district where the Anglo-Saxon suffix *ton* is very common. Within five miles we have Fletton, Alwalton, Chesterton, Overton or Orton (2), Stilton, Walton, Paston, Milton. Enlarging our observation, and going a few miles further, we find Sutton, Water Newton, Upton, Werrington, Glinton, Nunton, Etton, Helpston, Elton, Stibbington, Ashton, Bainton. The great probability, therefore, is that this parish name means some one's *ton*, i.e., town, settlement.

It is very easy to explain the addition of the final *e*. As the letter *s* concludes the first syllable, people unreasonably supposed it belonged to the second syllable, and that this was *stone*. The same error was for a time localised at Helpston, and at Thrapston : but in those places the correct spelling has long been adopted, and will, it is to be hoped, not change again.

The tendency to take away the final letter of a syllable that ends with two consonants, and tack it on to the next syllable, is very common. In such names as Grantham, Waltham, Castle Bytham, we constantly hear persons attach the *t* to the second syllable, pronouncing Gran-tham, Wal-tham, By-tham, instead of Grant-ham, Walt-ham, Byt-ham. *Ham*, home, is a well-known word. There is no such word as *tham*.

In Domesday the spelling is Wodestun. It may be pointed out that had the second syllable really meant *stone*, the *u* would never have appeared, as the word would have taken the form

**Wodestan.\*** The Anglo-Saxon for a stone was *stan*. Most likely the neighbouring parish of Stanground derives its name from this.

In the taxation lists prepared, after Pope Nicholas IV. granted tenths of ecclesiastical benefices to King Edward I. for a crusade, in 1291, the parish is spelt Woodstun.†

I have not had opportunity of inspecting many maps of Huntingdonshire of earlier date than the present century. But the earliest map I can find in which the place is spelt Woodstone is in 1786, in Boswell's *Historical Descriptions of New and Elegant Picturesque Views of the Antiquities of England and Wales*. In the map of the Drowned Fens a photographic reduction of which is given in *Fenland Notes and Queries*, Vol. III., p. 356, which was published by Blaeu, at Amsterdam, in 1645, the spelling is Woodston. In the map of the county in *Magna Britannia*, 1720, the place does not appear; but in the descriptive text it is spelt Woodston. In the familiar view of the south-west prospect of the city of Peterborough, issued by Buck, and dated 1731, is a large view of the church in the foreground, and in the notes at the foot we read Woodston Church. The same spelling appears in the *Mapp of the Great Levell representing it as it lay drowned*, given in Dugdale. This may be consulted in its reduced form as the frontispiece to Vol. II. of *Fenland Notes and Queries*. Dugdale published his account of the Drainage of the Fens in 1662.

We come now to the parish register. The earliest book has this title:—

The Register booke of Mariages Christninges & Burials begun & kept by S<sup>r</sup> Rafe Bent p(ar)son of the p(ar)ish church of Woodston during his life, and sence his death by others the Ministers & p(ar)sons theare for the said parishe Anno primo Regni eiusdem illustrissime D(omi)ne n(ost)re Regine Elizabethe.

From it I extract the following entries:—

- 1601 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Manestie, born in Woodston bur<sup>d</sup> 1601, being a bachelor, gave £10 to Woodston, to town of Long ordon £5 & £5 to Botlebridge.  
1684 11 June M<sup>r</sup> Richard Dickenson of Peterborough and Mary Vokes of Woodston were maryed on S<sup>t</sup> Barnabas day June 11<sup>th</sup> 1684.

\* Once, and once only, I have met with this form. Mr. F. A. Paley says he has met with it, but it must have been a mere error.

† See ante, Vol. I., p. 201.



- 1698 8 Dec. Mr Benjamin Halford of Thrapeton & M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Wright of Woodston (married).  
 1702 6 Mar. M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Wright of Woodston and M<sup>rs</sup> Anne Bellamy of Peterborough (married).  
 1661 13 Apr. Mary Thrift, and Edward Kerby was drowned in the sluice pit at Stangrounde, and both buried at Woodston April 15th.  
 1681 3 Nov. Anne the Wife of John Vokes Rector of Woodston (buried).  
 1699 13 June William Goodwin drowned at the Gravel ford of Woodston (buried).  
 1720 22 Oct. David Standish, A.M., Predecessor to Francis Whitstones B.D., in the Rectory of Woodston, was buried in the Cathedral Church of Peterborough, of which Church he was Minor Canon dying Ann. 1720. Oct. 22.

I have not examined the books of the present century. My last extract is dated 1780. My notes do not give me a single instance of the spelling Woodstone. Francis Whitstones, mentioned above as succeeding David Standish in the Rectory, died 1729, and was buried at Whittlesey where he was born. In S. Mary's Church there is a lengthy inscription to his memory. The latter part is in Latin, but it begins in English, and describes him as "late Rector of Woodston in Huntingdonshire, & Fellow of S<sup>t</sup>. John's College in Cambridge."

An examination of the ancient wills in the Probate Registry at Peterborough confirms the position here maintained. It would be useless to multiply instances. To name three only that I have met with, I find in 1492 the will of Thomas Keysby de Wodeston, in 1619 that of Robert Barnewell de Woodston, in 1631 that of Robert Ashbury de Woodston. I doubt if a single instance could be found before the latter part of the 18th century of the place being spelt Woodstone.

It is right to mention that in the *Chronicon Petroburgense*, the spelling Wodestone occurs twice. But this chronicle is in Latin, and wherever the name occurs it is in the ablative case; and the same man who is once described as Ranulphus de Wodestone is three times called Ranulphus de Wodestona; so that no argument as to the English spelling of the place can be based upon this. Other local names, about which there has never been any doubt, as Elton, Nunton, Stibbington, and many others, appear in the ablative with final *a*.

It seems therefore abundantly clear that the true name of the place is Woodston; and that the other form has only crept into use during the last 100 or 120 years. Ed.

**824.—Rand's Church Notes of Cambridgeshire.**—In *British Topography*, 1780, Vol. I., p. 192, I read:—

Mr. Brock Rand, late rector of Leverington and Newton, made extracts from the bishop of Ely's registers, Domesday, and other records, for a parochial history of this county, and of such parishes in the bishop of Ely's patronage as are in other dioceses; which, as chaplain to Dr. Green, bishop both of Norwich and Ely, he was well able to execute from the registers of both dioceses. They are now in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Dickenson, of Wisbech, his executor. He took church notes in Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely.

Have these notes ever been published? If not, are the manuscripts still in existence? and is it known in whose custody they are? R.M.G.

**825.—Gaelic Inscription at Yaxley.**—In *The Gentleman's Magazine* for 1811 is the following letter:—

MR. URBAN,

*Yaxley, March 18.*

THE following inscription is taken from a tombstone in the churchyard at Yaxley, an explanation of which I request some one of your Correspondents to favour me with. A.M.

"Sacred to the Memory of John M'Kay, late Private in the Fifth, or Ross-shire Militia, who died at Norman Cross, Sept. 1st, 1808, aged 17 years. Born in the Parish of Dornoch, County of Sutherland, Scotland.

Chriochnaich mi nis mo cliath's mo reis,

is dlu ahomh bas is uaiah;

M' anam cholerig mi dhia,

triallaidh gu neamh le buaiah.

This stone was erected by his Parishioners."

Gaelic, when "spelt by the unletter'd muse," may account for the neglect to furnish an explanation of the lines on the gravestone of the Scots lad who died at Norman Cross in 1808. "Ahomh" in the second line seems wrong: "choisrig" in the third line should be "choidheh." The lines, the burden of which is "Mors janua Vitæ," may be thus rendered:—

Brought low by death to humble tomb, to dwell

For aye with mighty regiment of Christ,

My soul with victory has pass'd to heaven.

Is this memorial still in existence? I know most of the Norman Cross inscriptions at Yaxley, but I do not remember this one.

Another correspondent of the same magazine, using the initials Q. P., subsequently sent another Yaxley inscription. What he meant by "without being a destroyer of schools" does not appear.

Let me add another epitaph on a benefactor to navigations, without being a destroyer of schools, which I copied from Yaxley church, near Peterborough:

"Here lies the body of  
THOMAS SQVIRE, merchant, native, and  
once inhabitant, of this town, who,  
at his own expence undertook to make  
the river Nene navigable from the city  
of Peterborough to Islip, near Thrapston,  
in the county of Northampton, where he  
afterwards lived upwards of  
20 years, to see it answer his own  
wishes, as well as the expectation  
of the publick. He married Elisabeth, the daughter of John  
Wright, of Godmanchester, in this county, merchant,  
by whom he had 12 children, 8 of whom only survived;  
and he died Feb. 20, 1759, aged 77."

Arms, S. a chevron engrailed between 3 swans heads erased Arg. Q.P.  
L. G.

**826.—Longthorpe Hall.**—Thorpe Hall stands about a mile to the west of the town of Peterborough. From its site in Hill Close, on ground rising from the lowlands subject to inundation by the Nene, one gains an admirable view of the Minster. At sunset, when the sombre arches are lit by the radiant beams, no more joyous sight can greet the eye. This probably occasioned the choice of the site by Sir Oliver St. John.

Sir Oliver's career is well known. In 1640 he sat in Parliament for Totnes. In 1637 he had argued the Shipping money case for Hampden, and in the House he acted with energy against the Prerogative and Court abuses. His appointment to the office of Attorney General did not detach him from the interests of the Commons, and in 1648 the House appointed him to the office of Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

In 1651, St. John went on an Embassy to the Hague, in order to induce the Dutch to expel the Cavaliers from Holland.

It is said that the Navigation Act was due to St. John's resentment of his failure. The State plate was pawned, and the ambassadors came back with empty pockets. He says, "All the reward of my Embassy into Holland was that whereas the Minster of Peterborough being an ancient and goodly fabriek was proposed to be sold and demolished I begged it to be granted to the citizens of Peterborough."\* The resolution of the House of Friday, 15 August, 1651, indicates that St. John had a voice about the Minster, but the proposal for demolition seems to have related to the church of S. John Baptist.

Fryday ye 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1651.

Resolved upon the Question by the Parliament, That the Mynster of Peterborough shalbe employed for a place for the publike worship of God for the inhabitants of the said Towne of Peterborough they repaireing and maintaining it, and that a Bill be brought in to that purpose. And the Lord Cheife Justice S<sup>r</sup> John is to bring in the same accordingly.

Hen. Scobell, clc: Parliament.

Bishop Kennett in his Register relates that,

The preservation of the fabric was really owing to rivalry between O<sup>r</sup>. Cromwel and O<sup>r</sup>. S<sup>t</sup> John both soliciting for it as a reward for public services and that when S<sup>t</sup> John found O. C. would prevail he induced the Town to Petition for the standing and use of it. Thus in O. C.'s absence got the Petition passed into ordinance for which good office he obtained the Chapel of S<sup>t</sup>. Mary adjoining the Minster.

This account is supported by Dugdale in his History of Durham.

Bishop Aukland Castle was given to Sir Arthur Haselrigg, (of Nonsley, Leicestr.) bart., called during the Commonwealth Bp. of Durham. He on the east of the Castle built a noble fabric according to the most elegant mode of those times, taking for his pattern that curious and stately building at Thorpe near Peterborough, wch Oliver S<sup>t</sup>. John, then O<sup>f</sup>. Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, under those mighty rulers, had after the murder of the King newly erected, partly out of the ruins of an ancient and goodly chappel adjoining to the church at Peterborough on the north side thereof, and part of that cathedral. To fit himself with materials for this new house he pulled down a magnificent and large Chappel standing on the south side of the Castle at Aukland. It had been built temp Edw. I. by Anthony Beke, Bp. of Durham. Bp. Cosin learning of the desecration of the Chapel, declined to inhabit this house, took it down and built with the stone a Chappel on the north side of the Court, and under the nave thereof made a vault for his sepulture.

The Chief Justice must have obtained the stone for the mass of the fabric of the Hall from Peterborough. It is of Barnack

\* The case of O. St. John concerning his actions during the late troubles. London 1680. 4<sup>o</sup>.

rag. The fractures exhibit the beautiful *Nerinea*, a spiral gasteropod, and other shells found in the stone of which the Abbey is built. The money to pay for the work came out of his fortune, made "by the sale of pardons on Compositions, a device to fill his pockets." Compounding with Delinquents was a good trade in 1653. The facings, mouldings, and architraves of the 38 windows of the Hall were to be cut out of Ketton freestone, pursuant to an agreement with Ashley and Frisbey, of Ketton, according to the plan of Peter Mills, surveyor.\*

Articles of Agreement. Indented and made agreed and concluded upon the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 1653 between John Ashley and Sampson Frisbey of Ketton in the county of Rutland freemasons on ye one part and ye right Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Oliver St John Lord Chief Justice of ye Court of Common Pleas at Westminster of ye other part witnesseth as followeth; that is to say

first. The said Jno Ashley and Sampson Frisbey for themselves &c. do hereby covenant and grant to and with ye s<sup>d</sup> Oliver St John his heirs &c. that they the s<sup>d</sup> Jo. A. and S. F. &c. will at their proper costs and charges provide make and finish for him ye said Oliver St John 38 windows of freestone raised at Ketton pitted in ye coy of Rutland to be placed in a Mansion house intended to be built by him ye s<sup>d</sup> O. St John at a place called Hill Close in Longthorpe in com Northton. the one half of ye said windows to be placed in ye north front and ye other half in ye south front of ye said intended house and to be of such order mouldings and size and bignesse respectively as is expressed and set forth in a draught or map of ye said intended house made by Peter Mills of London Surveyor. And further y<sup>t</sup>. ye stone of ye s<sup>d</sup> windows shall be so wrought as to conteyne part of ye ashler and splays of ye said house and that in every window in th<sup>e</sup> two nethermost storyes of ye said intended house there shall be six ppoint stones viz. 3 on each side and in every of ye said windows in ye uppermost storey of ye said intended house 4 ppoint stones viz. 2 on each side every of ye s<sup>d</sup> ppoint stones to be a foot square at the least. And shall likewise make and finish of Ketton stone afs<sup>d</sup>. ye Architrave moulding as well over ye said uppermost windows as over the Peers between ye same windows and shall joyn and return ye same according to ye order expressed in ye draught or map afs<sup>d</sup>. and shall from time to time deliver ye said windowes fair and workmanly wrought and noways defaced at ye place in Hill Close afs<sup>d</sup>. where ye s<sup>d</sup>. house is to built in such manner and proportion as ye proceeding of ye building of ye said house shall require so as ye same shall not at any time be hindred for want of ye said windows or any of them in consideration whereof the s<sup>d</sup> O. St John for himself &c. doth covenant and grant to and with them the s<sup>d</sup> John Ashley and Sampson Frisbey &c. to pay the several sums of money hereinafter expressed over and above £5 already paid. That is to say for every window to be placed in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> story of ye s<sup>d</sup> intended house made and finished as afs<sup>d</sup>. forty shills for every of ye said windows to be placed in ye uppermost story of ye said house thirty five shills and for every foot of ye said Architrave moulding over the peers between ye windows in ye said uppermost story proportionally according to ye rate and quality of

\* Add: MSS. 26,302.

ye same windowes. The said severall sums of money to be paid from time to time according to ye proceeding of ye said intended house and delivery of ye said windows and premises at ye place afs<sup>d</sup>. A bond of £60 to perform covenants. They are to have £30 advanced. *In Witness &c.*

Thorpe Hall was not long in the builders' hands. On 30 Aug., 1654, John Evelyn drove past, and he thus refers to it:—

Taking leave of my friends who had now feasted me more than a month I with my wife set our faces towards home and got this evening to Peterborow passing by a stately palace of St. John (one deepe in ye blood of our good King) built out of the ruins of the Bishops Palace and Cloyster. The church is exceedingly faire full of monuments of great antiquity. Here lies Queen Catherine the unhappy wife of Hy. VIII. and the no less unfortunate Q. of Scots. On the steeple we viewed the fens of Lincolnshire now much enclosed and drained with infinite expense and by many sluices, cuts mounds and mills, at which the City and country about it consisting of a poore and very lasy sort of people were much displeased.\*

St. John retired to Longthorpe in 1660. Although he had advised the King's death, he refused to act as one of the Commissioners for his trial. This saved him from the fate of the Regicides. The Commons wanted to exclude him from the Act of Oblivion, but the Lords were content with his perpetual incapacity for public office. He was closely watched; and fear of arrest led him to escape to France in 1662. He never returned to England. His death occurred at Augsburg, 21 Dec., 1673. The crest of the St. Johns, a falcon with bells, still adorns the entrance gate to the Hall.† Francis St. John succeeded his father;‡ and he was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Francis, who was created a baronet. He left an only daughter, Mary, who married Sir John Bernard, Bart.§ The Bernards made the Hall their residence till 1789, when, by the death of Sir Robert without issue, the baronetcy became extinct.

L. GACHES.

\* Thurloe. VII. 914. Probably the elms which surround the Hall demesne were planted in 1654.

† On a wreath, a falcon with bells, Or, ducally gorged, Gules, rising from a Mount, Vert.

‡ Sir Oliver was three times married. His wives were (1) Johanna Altham, whose son Francis sat as M.P. for Peterborough, 1656-1659; (2) Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Cromwell, of Upwood; (3) Elizabeth Oxenbridge, who survived Sir John.

Entries in S. John Baptist Registers:—

1677. Aug. 6. Francis son of Francis St. John bapt.

1706. Aug. 8. buried Francis St. John esquire.

§ The Bernard baronetcy dates from 1662. Arms: Argent, a bear erect, Sable, musaled, Or.

827.—*The Life of a Fenman.*—By the kindness of Mr. R. J. Colman, of Bracondale Woods, Norwich, the Editor has had the opportunity of seeing a very rare poem about the Fens, and has been given permission to make any use of it by way of extracts, for *Fenland Notes and Queries*.

The full title is this:—

THE  
INUNDATION  
OR  
THE LIFE OF A  
FEN - MAN,  
A  
POEM.

*With Notes Critical and Explanatory.*

---

BY A FEN PARSON.

---

*I thence  
Invoke thy aid to my advent'rous song,  
That with no middle flight intends to soar  
Above th' AONIAN mount, while it pursues  
Things unattempted yet in prose or rhyme.  
Milt. Par. Lost, B. I.*

LYNN: Printed by W. WHITTINGHAM;

And sold by R. BALDWIN, *Bookseller* in Pater-Noster-Row, London; Mr. KNAPP, at Peterborough; Mr. NICHOLSON, at Wisbich; Mr. HAYTT, at Bedford; Mr. JENKINSON, at Huntingdon; Mr. ALBIN, at Spalding; Mess. FLETCHER and HODSON, at Cambridge; and all other Booksellers.

[Price ONE SHILLING.]

No date is given on the title, or in the preface. From internal evidence, no doubt, a near approximation could be made to the year in which the poem was written. Perhaps some correspondent will help us in this matter, and also tell us who the Fen-Parson was.

In the preface the author admits that the object he has in writing is to instruct in their religious duties some who have very small opportunities of learning. After speaking of the banks erected to prevent the overflowing of the "high country floods," he proceeds:—

On those banks the inhabitants, for their better security, erect their miserable dwellings, at a great distance sometimes from each other, and very remote from their parish churches, to which they rarely resort, unless to a wedding, a christening, or a burying. So that they seem to be cut off

from the community, and are deprived of almost every advantage of social life. It is a rare thing to meet with a village of twenty houses together, unless in their towns, from which they are many miles distant. They are, therefore, excluded from every opportunity of the very lowest education, and few of them arrive at higher erudition than to be able to read and write.

The author speaks also of the fortitude, patience, and resignation, which are characteristic of the Fen-men. No men have more frequent occasions to submit themselves to the absolute disposal of Providence.

To an upland farmer, the loss of his flock, or the failure of his crop, may be repaired by another more kindly season; but a drowned year strips the poor fen-man of every conveniency of life, his all is gone, he is compelled to abandon his dwelling, and has not an inch of dry land to set his foot on.

The verses themselves we give at full.

#### THE INUNDATION.

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Of sudden floods descending on the plain,<br>Which threat to drown a sinful land again,<br>Whose swelling surge with unresisted sway,<br>The lowly cot and cattle sweeps away,<br>Sing, heav'nly OLIO, thou that did'st inspire<br>Thy fav'rite NASO with poetic fire ;<br>Assist my weak endeavours to pursue<br>The similar tale, and make his fable true.<br>And as thou mov'd the Grecian bard to write<br>Of frogs embattl'd for the bloody fight,<br>Strengthen the efforts of my trembling pen<br>To celebrate an humble race of men,<br>Alike amphibious, by kind Nature's hand<br>Form'd to exist on water or on land. | 5                    |
| The glorious sun, bright regent of the day,<br>For five dry seasons with his sultry ray,<br>Had warm'd the earth, and in diurnal round,<br>Exhal'd the vapours from the fenny ground ;<br>The less'ning flood relinquishes the strand,<br>And laughing CERES repossess'd the land.<br>As Nature kindly had perform'd her part,<br>She meets assistance from her handmaid art.<br>The banks are heighten'd, proper engines force<br>Th' expanded waters to their usual course.<br>The swampy bog now yields luxuriant grain,<br>And yellow harvests glad the low-land swain.   | 10<br>15<br>20<br>25 |
| The patient FEN-MAN, who endur'd long time<br>The various hardships of the wat'ry clime,<br>Whose slaught'ring gun and faithful dog had fed<br>His wife and little family with bread,<br>Now holds the plough, turns up the moory soil,<br>And finds a vast increase reward his toil.<br>His fields are cropt with different sorts of grain,<br>His sheep and oxen graze the chearful plain.<br>He sees himself completely happy now,<br>And calm content sits smiling on his brow.   | 30<br>35             |



But when frail Fortune smiles, and goods increase,  
 Our pride and vanity keep equal pace.  
 He feels th' effects of more propitious climes,  
 And now his prospects alter with the times. 40  
 His little hut, which by the bankside stood,  
 Cover'd with coat of sedge, the walls of mud,  
 Where each domestic use one room supplies,  
 His victuals here he dresses, here he lies :  
 A little lattice to let in the day, 45  
 With half extinguish'd light and glimm'ring ray,  
 Appears contemptuous in his loftier eye,  
 And much too streighten'd for his family.  
 He builds a handsom box on purchas'd ground,  
 His fields and pastures lie contiguous round, 50  
 The neighb'ring hinds admiring as they pass  
 The red-brick'd front, the sashes' glitt'ring glass.  
 Barns, yards, conveniences of ev'ry kind,  
 A useful garden shelter'd from the wind,  
 Hogs in the sty and pullets at the door, 55  
 And ducks and geese and turkeys, many a score.  
 Our troubles with our affluence increase,  
 Plagued with too much, and yet displeas'd with less.  
 His barns are now too little to contain  
 The plenteous produce of his annual grain. 60  
 He builds them larger, and contrives more room,  
 To hoard his goods and fruit for years to come.  
 Like the rich fool, to himself he fondly says,  
 "Be merry, eat and drink, and take thine ease."  
 What is all earthly bliss, but infant's toys ? 65  
 How vain our hopes ; how fleeting are our joys !  
 The hour we think our happiness compleat,  
 The scene's revers'd, and we lament our fate.  
 For now rough winter comes, the welkin low'rs,  
 Pregnant with boist'rous storms and frequent show'rs, 70  
 The south wind rises on her madid wings,  
 And the low hov'ring clouds together brings.  
 As at the deluge forty days and nights  
 The rain descended from the mountain's heights,  
 As all the fountains of the deep broke forth, 75  
 And heaven's windows op'd to drown the earth ;  
 So now three wat'ry moons' incessant rain,  
 Came pouring down upon the marshy plain.  
 From all the neighb'ring hills the torrents glide  
 And meet the influx of the foaming tide. 80  
 Waves roll'd on waves accumulated rise,  
 And intermix their waters with the skies.  
 The stoutest banks in vain oppose their force,  
 In vain the art of man repels their course.  
 A breach at last is made, the currents pour, 85  
 Thro' the deep chasm with tremendous roar.  
 Th' alarm'd inhabitants desert their home,  
 Whilst round their dwellings raging billows foam,  
 Betake them to their oars, and safely row  
 Over those very lands they us'd to plow. 90  
 Far as the wide horizon bounds the plain,  
 NEPTUNE extends his watery domain.  
 Twixt land and wave the difference is no more,  
 All is an open sea without a shore.

A vast expanse, beyond what eye can ken, 95  
 From Ely's lofty tow'rs to Lincoln fen.  
 There the fam'd abby strikes the gazer's sight,  
 At once with pleasing horror and delight,  
 The mighty ruins, mould'ring walls, express  
 The ancient grandeur of this sacred place. 100  
 "Where, OROWLAND, are thy domes, thy stately tow'rs?  
 "The rust of time thy priestly pride devours,  
 "Thy broken columns clasping ivy twines,  
 "And rev'rend moss surrounds thy mangled shrines.  
 "Where the loud organ charm'd the tuneful choir, 105  
 "The hooting owl and ominous bat retire."  
 Built and endow'd by MERCIA's princely hand, }  
 The pamp'ring ABBOT fixes here his stand, }  
 To riot on the fatness of the land.  
 Where verdant pastures once were wont to feed 110  
 The fine-fleec'd sheep and ox of largest breed;  
 Where rapid rivers yield the fishy prey,  
 To fast delicious on each maigre day.  
 But seasons change, the soil so rich before,  
 By frequent inundation's render'd poor. 115  
 The country's desolate, the people fled,  
 And in a safer climate seek their bread.  
 The rushing waters cover all the plain,  
 And the sea re-assumes her own again.  
 Devouring pyke o'er flow'ry meadows stray, 120  
 Where sportive lambkins us'd to frisk and play.  
 The timorous hare, when all appear'd a sea,  
 Anxious for life, sits squat upon a tree.  
 The partridge, tir'd with flight, is glad to drop  
 Her wearied wings upon a willow top. 125  
 No living thing appears, but all is lost,  
 Or driven from th' inhospitable coast.  
 "Unhappy clime! malignant airs dispense,  
 "O'er thy devoted head their influence.  
 "Ev'n when rich plenty smiles upon thee most, 130  
 "Yet health, that healing balm of life, is lost."  
 The moory soil, the wat'ry atmosphere,  
 With damp, unhealthy moisture chills the air.  
 Thick, stinking fogs, and noxious vapours fall,  
 Agues and coughs are epidemical. 135  
 Hence ev'ry face presented to our view,  
 Looks of a pallid or a sallow hue.  
 Nor kindest seasons these complaints redress,  
 They're owing to the GENIUS of the place.  
 Near to the bank, in a dark dismal hut, 140  
 Made of the stern of an old shatter'd boat,  
 Pale FERRIS sat—her shrivel'd aspect shows  
 A shocking sense of sickness, pain and woes:  
 She shiver'd o'er a cow-dung's smoaky fire,  
 Squallid her looks and wretched her attire, 145  
 An old blue cloak was o'er her shoulders flung,  
 Her patch'd and tatter'd garment round her hung,  
 Her hollow eyes with scalding rheum look'd red,  
 And quiv'ring palsey shook her bending head;  
 Catarrhs and intermittings with her dwell, 150  
 And such the poison of her loathsome cell,  
 Whene'er she stirs abroad she taints the ground,  
 And spreads the direful pestilence around.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| But her Fen-hero her attacks defies,<br>Healthy by temp'rance and by exercise.<br>From early infancy to manhood's prime,<br>His constitution weathers with the clime.<br>But times and seasons are in God's own pow'r,<br>He must submit, and waits the approaching hour.   | 155 |
| For now the BITTERN undulates her note,<br>Like a deep-mouth'd bassoon, and swells her throat.<br>The screaming seamows hover o'er the plain,<br>Portentous signs of gath'ring storms and rain.<br>He sees the coming flood, he hears the wind,<br>And meets his fate with a determin'd mind.   | 160 |
| The sudden deluge overflows his ground,<br>And his fine stock is either starv'd or drown'd.<br>His barns, wherein his choicest grain he stores,<br>Let in the water at the folding doors,<br>His corn-ricks are half drowned to the top,<br>Which like a SYPHON sucks the liquor up.<br>His stacks of hay are swimming o'er the mead,<br>Useless to him, his cattle want no feed.<br>At last his mansion, whose unusual load,<br>Ill suited to the soil whereon it stood,                         | 165 |
| The waters sapping the foundation round,<br>Falls an unwieldy ruin to the ground.<br>Whilst his deserted cot the storm derides,<br>And stands superior to the swelling tides.<br>He sees an end of all his toil and pain,<br>And hastens to his little hut again.<br>Renews his former life, and gets afloat,<br>With gun and spaniel in his cockle boat.<br>He rises early, and he late takes rest,<br>And sails intrepid o'er the wat'ry waste ;  | 170 |
| Waits the return of <i>Shot-seal</i> on the lake,<br>And listens to the wild fowls distant quack,<br>At dusk steers homeward with a plenteous freight,<br>The crazy vessel groans beneath the weight,<br>A tidy house-wife waits his coming home,<br>Gets dry apparel and cleans up her room.<br>Prepares a chearful fire, brings out her hoard,<br>And spreads a homely plenty o'er his board.<br>To vend her fowl the dearest marts she tries,<br>And with the profit household wants supplies. | 175 |
| The capital's ev'n feasted with his store,<br>And London carriers whistle at his door.<br>Thus amply he his family maintains,<br>And of his change of fortune scarce complains.<br>His varied scenes of life, now make him see,<br>Nothing is certain, but uncertainty.   | 180 |
| That anxious fears attend our happiest state,<br>And greater grow, as we are growing great.<br>That who with higher affluence is blest,<br>Dreads more the loss of what he is possess'd.<br>That he alone is out of fortune's pow'r,<br>Who's sunk so low that he can sink no low'r.<br>And who life's comforts without pain would share,<br>Must very little have to hope or fear.   | 185 |
| That cares and crosses every soul oppress,<br>And who with patience bears them, makes them less,  | 190 |
|   | 195 |
|   | 200 |
|   | 205 |
|   | 210 |

That God's wise providence our lot hath thrown,  
 And the disposal of it is his own.  
 He once indeed was rich, and now he's poor,  
 But yet he is, but what he was before.  
 And all his interval of plenty seems,  
 As airy visions and delusive dreams.

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## FINIS.

Many notes are given. Some of these indicate the passage in Milton, Ovid, Horace, or Virgil, which the author has imitated. Some explain the mythological allusions, or some less familiar words. None of these need be printed here. Those that have more special interest for our readers are the following:—

V. 27.—*The patient fen-man, &c.* This epithet is most strictly applied to him, since the life of a North-American savage is vastly preferable to his. They both live by their gun: the one traverses the woods and mountains in search of his prey, and retires at night to a warm cabin, with plenty of fuel to warm the rigour of the climate; the other in a little skiff, which a puff of wind would overset, paddles about the water till the evening, and comes home wet and cold to his miserable hut, and he's scarcely dry and warm all night in his bed. The American Indian also bears a near resemblance to our hero, as a fisherman, he has his canoe, and ventures upon the shoals in search of fish, he has also his favourite dog to attend him, and hopes that as he is his constant and faithful companion in this life, he will be in another.

But thinks, admitted to that equal sky,  
 His faithful dog shall bear him company.

*Ess. on Man. B. I.*

V. 52.—*The red-brick'd front, the sashes' glittering glass.* This whole character is realized in one JOHN LEAFORD: he was a common labourer in the fen, called a banker, and in drowned years, provided for his family, according to the custom of the country, by killing wild fowl. He was employed by the corporation of adventurers in making and repairing their banks; got money, purchas'd adventurer's lands at a small price, and, by a happy succession of dry seasons, grew very rich. He built a handsome brick and sash'd house, near the bank of the hundred foot, at Oxload, in the parish of Downham, in the Isle of Ely, which in a better country, would well deserve the name of a hall place, and become an elegant dwelling for a rural squire. He was employed as an officer under the corporation, and at last got to be a conservator. He was perfectly illiterate, but this was to his advantage; if his bills for works done by order of the board passed current, it was very well, if they were objected to, he screened himself, by saying it was the fault of his transcriber, for he could neither read nor write.

V. 101.—*Where, Crowland, &c.* The reader will excuse this digression, when he reflects that it is designed as a compliment to the fen country, in recollecting the many noble religious foundations, which have formerly adorned it. Dearham, Shouldham, Marham, Pentney and Wormegay abbeys, in Norfolk; Ramsey abbey in the fens of Huntingdonshire, which was possessed of vast lordships and estates in Norfolk, great part of which are now in the possession of the ancient family of the Hares of Stow Bardolph. In the fens of Lincolnshire, Thorney, Swineshead and Crowland abbeys.

V. 107.—*Built and endow'd by Mercia's princely hand.* The abbey of Crowland was built by Ethelbald, King of Mercia, at a vast expence as the foundation was a morass, and they were forced to drive down strong piles of oak to support the noble superstructure; it was also largely endow'd by him! but to see the alteration of time! the remains of this magnificent edifice is now a parish church, and the vicarage 25*l.* *per ann.* and by contribution.

V. 111.—*The fine-fleec'd sheep, and on of largest breed.* Lincolnshire is remarkable for the fineness of their wool, and the large breed of catile.

V. 119.—*And the sea re-assumes her own again.* There is no doubt, but the fens and marshlands of Norfolk and Lincolnshire, were formerly recovered from the sea, which, as it gained upon other parts of the island, retreated on this. The names of places now existing, sufficiently prove this opinion; as Holbeach, in Lincolnshire, and Littleport, in the Isle of Ely, which altho' now a village of no consequence, yet, by its many desolated streets and ruined buildings, appears to have been formerly a respectable place, and was no doubt a port of considerable traffick and merchandize.

V. 122. *The timorous hare, &c.* . . . . This extraordinary incident of the hare and the partridge, is a fact that in this drowned season actually happen'd, at Salter's Load, near Downham Market, in Norfolk. A large tract of land there, being kept dry by the continual attention of the owner, for a month after all the adjacent country was drowned, occasioned the little game in that district to resort thither for food and security, but a storm arising from the north west, broke the bank, and in an instant all was overflown; the people employed to get the stock out of the ground took a hare and a partridge alive from the top of a willow tree.

V. 174. *At last his mansion, &c.* The fen being generally a morass, will not support a foundation of brick or stone. This we may find by many buildings therein, some in ruins, others in a leaning situation; particularly a house near Mepal bridge in the isle of Ely, formerly the mansion seat of Captain Fortree, built with stud work and turf between, instead of brick for lightness. The remains of it shew it to have been an elegant building, and ornaments of stucco are still to be seen in the front, a handsome walled-in court yard before, and gardens walled in behind. very plainly belonged to it formerly, by the ruins of them now visible.

V. 183.—*With gun and spaniel in his cockle boat.* This is called a gunning boat, and is not much longer than his gun, which is made of a great length, to kill at a vast distance. This boat is constructed very light, that the fen-man can easily haul it over the bank, when he wants to sail into other waters, in search of fowl: in a brisk gale it dances like a cockle shell upon the waves.

V. 186.—*Waits the return of shot-seal on the lake.* This is a term, used in the fen country to denote the time, that is about sun set, when the wild fowl return from sea (which they are said to fly to every day) into the fresh waters.

Lake, in the fen language, is an open part of the river, or the waters in the fen, when a hard frost sets in, in a drowned year, to which the wild fowl resort for food.

V. 197.—*And London carriers whistle at his door.* As an instance of the luxury of the metropolis, there are a set of people call'd kedgers, who when the country can be travelled over, call regularly at the fen-men's houses to buy their fish and fowl at a vast price, and send them up to town, by the butter-boats, or sell them to the higglers that keep London market. But what is this to the extravagance of a Norwich weaver, who sends a special messenger from thence to Caxon, which is near 100 miles, to meet the north country carrier with fresh salmon?

V. 198.—*Thus amply he his family maintains.* It is almost incredible to believe, what great advantage the skilful fen-man makes of his winter shooting, in a drowned year, and in the following summer of his fish; by the overflowing of Whittlesea Meer, and other great reservoirs of fish, the whole country is plentifully stocked with them.

The fen-men have a phrase for this, "that Whittlesey Meer has folded": when the waters begin to abate upon the land, the fish retire into the dykes and rivers, and great quantities are taken: the traffic of fish, in general, is very lucrative to these people, and a single share of the smelt fishery, when they come to the rivers to spawn, has amounted to 50%.

These notes suggest a few observations. That a North-American savage should make it a part of his religion to hold that his dog and he would still be together in another world, is quite credible: but it is questionable if any such belief has ever been prevalent in the Fens. The author falls into an error with regard to the county in which Thorney is situated, and in his remarks on Crowland he appears to have supposed that the existing remains form part of the actual building erected before the Conquest. The argument from the syllable *beach* in the name of Holbeach, that the sea once came up to the spot, would not now be accepted as proved. The *a* in the syllable has only appeared in quite modern times; and it is much more likely that it is the same word as the *beck* of the Lake District, that is, a rivulet or brook. The spelling Wisbech has now been generally resumed: may we not hope that Holbech will soon follow the example?

Caxon, mentioned in the note on line 197, is no doubt Caxton, situated some nine or ten miles west of Cambridge, on the great north road. It was enterprising, in the days before railways or bicycles, to send from Norwich to Caxton to get salmon fresh.

The sentence given in the last note, "Whittlesea Meer has folded," gives a variation of the usually received phrase. Nor is it quite easy to see what this can mean. Is not the true reading "Whittlesea Mere has foaled?" The point being that the word *mere* was pronounced *mare*. See Art. 446, Vol. II., p. 329.

No note is given to the "cow-dung's smoaky fire," line 144. Cow-dung till within memory used to be collected in the

summer, and stacked after being dried in the sun. Sometimes it was formed into shapes in a wooden frame about eight inches square, called a "vat," or "fort." The fuel itself so prepared was called "cassons," pronounced with the first syllable long, nearly rhyming with "raisins." It is believed the practice has not wholly died out.

"Seamows" in line 162 must be simply an oversight for "seamews."

**328.—Low-Fen Bill Hall.**—William Hall, a true son of the Fens, who was born at South Kyme, near Heckington in 1748, and was living at Lynn in 1818, when he completed his 70th year, seems to have been a remarkable character. Little is known of him except what can be gathered from some publications with high-sounding titles which he issued between 1812 and 1818. Our readers are again indebted to Mr. R. J. Colman, of Bracondale Woods, Norwich, for the loan of a copy of Hall's publications, from which the account here given has been prepared. It is clear that he designed a serial publication; and if the support given to him had been larger there would have been more matter issued. Although quaint, and curious, and now interesting for the lights thrown upon various parts of Fenland history, it cannot be said that what he wrote was either valuable or important. The greater part is in rhyme, and consists of personal reminiscences and quite trivial occurrences, and is full of allusions to which the key is hopelessly lost. One set of verses, for instance, taking up two pages, describes how he was once nearly drowned in attempting to get a plant in the water, and was saved by his mother who was engaged in washing about ten yards off. This rescue (he was no more than four years old at the time) he records as a miracle.

The first number contains 24 pages; it is in a stout paper cover with printing on all its 4 pages, and a slip at the end headed "Advertisement extraordinary." The title is this:—

A Sketch of Local History, being a chain of Incidents relating to the State of the Fens, from the earliest accounts to the Present time.

With a Life of the Author,

Born 1748.

Where ducks by scores travers'd the fens,  
Coots, didappers, rails, water-hens;  
Combin'd with eggs, to charge our pot,  
Two furlongs circle round the spot;\*  
Fowl, fish, all kinds, the table grac'd,  
All caught within the self same space;  
As time revolv'd, in season fed,  
The surplus found us salt and bread;  
Your humble servant, now your penman,  
Liv'd thus a simple, full-bred Fenman.

\* Then an Island of but few perches, the Author the last person living, who was born upon it.

LYNN.

*Printed by W. G. WHITTINGHAM, for the Author,*

AND SOLD BY HIM ONLY:

*price one shilling.*

1812.

He announces, on the back of the title, that he "solemnly" proposes to dedicate the profits of his pamphlet to the care of an orphan family, four in number, that had been thrown upon his hands. His design, as indicated in a notice to the Public, was to issue by degrees the whole of his journal, if he could get 200 subscribers. The work was to contain, besides "a chain of personal incidents," a local history of the Fens, an account of their gradual drainage, "their present state of improvement, and their future liability to inundation." He says he was, in 1812, the oldest person living who was born and bred entirely in "the low fen." He thought the work would be completed in six parts.

His address to the Critics gives a depressing account of the state of things in his boyhood. Omitting two lines we give this entire.

TO CRITICS.

Pray Sirs consider, had you been  
Bred, where whole winters nothing seen;  
But naked flood for miles and miles,  
Except a boat the eye beguiles;  
Or coots in clouds † by buzzards tear'd,

†Perhaps as many in a calm day as would scatter over several acres, but at the approach of a buzzard, would one and all push together for preservation: inasmuch that they would appear like a spacious cloud; and if a gunner happened to be in ambuscade, he might easily kill 40 or 50 of them.



Your ear with seeming thunder seis'd;  
 From rais'd decoy\* there ducks on flight,  
 By tens of thousands darken light.  
 None to assist in greatest need,  
 Parents but very badly read;  
 Were any sent by stress of storm,†  
 'Twas much if they could aught perform;  
 Scarce five times in the year from home,  
 And visitants as seldom come.  
 No conversation strike the mind  
 But of the lowest vulgar kind;  
 Such scenes attend your eyes and ears,  
 For weeks, and days, and months, and years.  
 Five miles from either church or school,  
 No coming there but cross a pool;  
 Kept twenty years upon that station,  
 Without six-months of education;  
 Traverse the scene, then weigh it well,  
 Say, could you better write or spell.

In the verses which he calls an Introduction to the Journal, the author names a number of Fen employments, and uses some rare Fen words.

An original book, though yet incomplete one,  
 A treatise if you please! you ask, what does it treat on?  
 Why such as your parson can't preach on, no doubt,  
 For here's subjects some parsons know nothing about;  
 Such as born in a coy,—1—and bred in a mill,—2  
 Taught water to grind, and ducks for to kill;  
 Seeing coots clapper claw, laying flat on their backs,—3  
 Standing upright to row,—4—and crowning of jacks,—5  
 Laying spring nets for to catch ruff and reeve,—6  
 Stretched out in a boat with a shade to deceive,—7  
 Taking geese, ducks, and coots, with nets upon stakes,—8  
 Riding in a calm day for to catch moulted drakes,—9  
 Gathering eggs to the top of one's wish,—10  
 Cutting tracks in the flags for decoying of fish,—11  
 Seeing rudds run by shoals 'bout the side of Gill sike,—12  
 Being dreadfully venom'd by rolling in slike,—13  
 Looking hingles, and sprinks, trammels, hop-nets and teanings,—14  
 Few parsons, I think, can explain all their meanings;  
 In theory, no doubt, they may pretty nigh do,  
 But the practical part they have never gone through.

The mistake of using *laying* for *lying*, though very common, is not frequent in the Fens. Many of these words have not appeared in our lists of provincialisms. Of course *coy* is *decoy*.

\* This was the Six-hundred Decoy: the pond about three acres of water, well sheltered and distant from disturbance, because so great an asylum, that I have heard divers decoymen say it was apparently impossible for an egg to drop without hitting one. Our house was a full mile parallel distant; and when they were disturbed, any stranger would suppose it distant thunder. It is the author's intention to devote a part of the work under the *life of a low Fen-man*, where he will decant more largely upon Decoys; having never seen but one rational writer on the subject, and he has manifested that he knows nothing of the theory.

† This, and helping to catch ducks, were the principal motives for any person's coming at all.

Gill sike is near Langrick. Bailey gives for *trammel*, "A Drag net, a sort of Fishing-Net ; also a long Net for catching Fowls by Night." What are the meanings of hingles, hopnets, rudds, slike, teanings ? How do coots clapper claw ?

In one set of verses Hall speaks of the Fen farmers having sometimes to use six horses in ploughing.

In a short description of Kyme there is quoted, in illustration of the neglected state of its drainage in the last century, an adage that was "in almost every child's mouth in the country, about fifty years ago."

Kyme, God knows,  
Where no corn grows,  
Nothing but a little hay ;  
And the water comes,  
And takes it all away.

This was the usual reply of its inhabitants, when any person asked where they came from ; but after the embankment and engine drainage took place, the hay not only became more secure, but the breed of stock became also famous ; and likewise coleseed, oats, and other mercantile commodities were produced ; insomuch that things took a very different turn indeed, and the reply now is

KYME, SIR ! KYME ! !

These last three words seem to have become in their turn a sort of proverb : they are quoted more than once afterwards in other sets of verses.

Something over a page is occupied with "The Water Poet's description of Brothertoft," and a note and some lines upon it. The Water Poet was John Taylor (born, c. 1580, d. 1654). His poems do not in general refer to this part of England. The point of this description is his calling the place Goostoft, and representing its entire prosperity to depend upon the keeping of geese. This ancient town, called Goostoft, "is with watry Fens incompast round." The people have no horse, cow, sheep, ox, ass, pig, or sow, "Nor any other living thing but geese." The assessments are upon the number of geese men keep ; as a man's geese increased, so did his importance in the parish :—

And so from place to place he doth aspire,  
And as his geese grow more he's raised higher.  
'Tis onely geese there that do men prefer,  
And 'tis a rule, no goose, no officer.

Some observations are made upon the obligation to scour the ditch between the Six Hundred and the Raikes. These are in Holland Fen, some miles east of Heckington.

At p. 23 in another title, apparently meant to describe the larger work Hall had in contemplation, if this first effort should meet with sufficient encouragement.

The Low-Fen Journal, and Local Miscellany; comprising the Grand Level at large, especially Those parts under the Author's immediate observation: adapted to the meridian of Willow Booth; with a History of South Kyme. By WILL. WILL-BE-SO.

From real feelings, facts relate,  
From observation, subjects state;  
From mem'ry, give tradition's test,  
From best of authors, take the rest.

Lynn: Printed by W. G. Whittingham, High Street, For the Author, and sold by him only, At the Antiquarian Library, Ferry Street. 1812.

The last page has some verses, of little interest, apparently describing himself, and called a "Portraiture." A slip between this page and the cover has some very vague remarks on personalities, which he now considers "foreign to the general drift of History." From the cover we learn that William Hall dealt not only in books, but also in mathematical instruments. Also, from a notice of "That excellent preparation known as Holmes's. Spirits," which he has for sale, it appears that Hall had married Holmes's daughter.

In *A Biographical Dictionary of the Living Authors* published in 1816 no mention occurs of William Hall.

Some account of the remainder of his publications will be given in our next part.

**829.—Early Soham Wills (812).—**Andrew Brigde of Soham: proved before the Commissary of the Prior and Chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury, Aug., 1503., Reg. C.C. Cantuar. F. fo. 213a.

Burial in Churchyard of S. Andrew, Soham—Bequests, High Altar for oblations forgotten 6s. 8d.; Church repairs 6s. 8d.; repairs of the Chapel of S. Mary at Soham 8s. 4d.; Common light of the Church 3s. 4d.; Guild of Corpus Christi 3s. 4d.; Guild of S. Peter 3s. 4d.; to each of the 4 orders of Friars in Cambridge 6s. 8d.; to the Master and Scholars of Pembroth in the University of Cambridge 6s. 8d.; to Petronilla, testator's wife, his capital messuage with 40 acres of land and 1½ perches scattered through Soham Common, a shop with the adjoining close, and another close called

"Oxley's." Also a close at Nethershall and Le Fluth with 3 rods of land and privilege of folding sheep (*own libertate unus le Folds*) near Bawnsland. Also 7 acres of meadow and 2 of arable (all) for term of her life. After her death, John, testator's Son, to have the reversion of all. To Margaret his daughter 10 marks. To Petronilla his daughter 10 marks. To Margaret his servant a heifer of 3 years old. To John Emlyn a heifer. To an honest priest celebrating for a year for testator and his kin £5 6s. 0d. To increase stipend of priest of Guild of Corpus Christi 40s. To Rathesure (?) his servant a heifer. To Will Mylton the elder, a calf. Residue to Petronilla his wife and John his son who are executors. Witnesses, Joan Howdy and Will Waldow, Priest, Joan Gardyner and others.

Robert Relingham, husbandman : 1521. Brydon fo. 1. (Bury S. Edmunds.)

Corpus Christi gylde 1 acre of free lands in Este Field. Witness, Willm Umfraye priest, &c.

Thomas Peehie of Brokestrek : 1523. Brydon fo. 32.

High auter a combe of barley. To Ohurch 20s. to be paid next year after death, and 10s within 3 years of death. To reparacons of "Chapple in highe ways" 6s. 8d. the second year after death.

Thomas Peehie, Hall St. : 1523. Brydon fo. 87.

To high altar for oblations, &c. 5s. To Reparacons of Ohurch, 40s. To Corpus Christi Guild, and S. Peter's Guild 3s. 4d. each. "That these be yerely paid by my wyff Elizabeth and John Peehie of Hall St. of the profytt of the land which I and the same John Peehie did hold together some tyme of Wm Pechye my father, to Corpus Christi Guild preste in Soham 13s. 4d. yerely for ever as longe as the brethren and sisterne of the guilde will maynetayne any honest preste there singing or saying." 1 acre of land called Dunstallacre (?) to maintenance of guild priest of Corpus Xti on above condition.

Thomas Yaxley : 1523. Brydon fo. 68.

To Corpus Xti guild 6s. 8d. and the best mere I have, and to our Blessed Lady guilde the next best mere. To the rood lights 2d., 2s. to be paid which I owe, and if my children live then none of these legacies be paid but my debts and the high altar.

William Patte : 1525. Brydon fo. 131.

To high altar 1 combe of barley. 3 solemn diriges with . . . with 3 drinkings and at every dirige 5s. to be disposed, and at every drinking 1 combe wheat, 1 qr malt, 1 calf and one sheep. To Xmas (?) mass 1 free acre of land in Estfield called Foly loye (?).

Edward Norfolke : 1527. Brydon fo. 261.

To high altar 2 bushels barley. To altar of Our Lady in Soham Church an altar cloth with a towel. To Guild of Corpus Xti 20s. To an honest priest to sing trentall of S. Gregory 20s. "I will have an honest priest to sing and pray for my soul in Soham Church for 3 months, taking as stipend 26s. 8d." Witness Sir Thos. Dobet (?) parish priest of Soham.

Wm. Yaxlie : 1525. Brydon fo. 284.

To high altar 2 bushels barley. To guild of Corpus Xti 4 bushels barley within 12 months of death. To guild of Our Lady 2 bushels barley and 1 bushel to maintenance of rood light.

Alice Pechie, Widow, of Thorn St. : 1525. Brydon fo. 310.

To high altar 12d. Three diriges, one at my burying, one at my 7<sup>th</sup> and the third at my 30<sup>th</sup> day as well and honestly as my goods will bear, with three drinkings; the value of every dirige with the drinking 30s. The money of both my houses to be divided on this manner; 6s. 8d. to reparacon of Soham Church; 6s. 8d. to high way of Soham, and 6s. 8d. to poor of Soham, i.e. 3s. 4d. at Christmas and 3s. 4d. at Easter, to pray for the soul of Thos. Pechye and Alice with all their good friends. To hanging (?) of the great bell 20s.; to rood loft 13s. 4d. if any man will do any more thereto, or else to the painting of the Crucifix with Our Lady and S. John. To the "honoment" of the relic of S. Andrew 20s.

John Hadnam, Smith, of Soham : 1523. Brydon fo. 316.

To high altar 16d.; reparacon of Church 12d.; to maintenance of the light before Our Lady at the font 14d.

William Pechie : 1529. Brett fo. 25.

To high altar 12d. For a trentall of Masses for my soul and "odyr" as I am bounden 15s. (?). To Soham Church 6s. 8d., to Wicken Church 13s. 4d. Witnesses, Richard Guston vicar, and Robert Salisbury.

Richard Voyce : 1530. Brett fo. 133.

To high altar 12d. To maintenance of Church work 20s.; 6s. 8d. yearly for 3 years.

John Garson : c. 1540. Cole fo. 240.

To high altar 16d. Jesus (?) mass priest, if there be any, to have 6s. 8d. to pray for the Soul of Peter Salisbury and Margaret his wife, Wm Gore and Johan his wife, to be paid 4d. a year so long as the said sum shall last. Mass and dirige at burial, 30<sup>th</sup> and year day and 10s. to the poor at each of these days. To church one surplice.

John Garsham : 1543. Longe fo. 356.

To three solemn diriges with masses and other Divine service on burying 7<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> days, and at each day 26s. 8d. to poor people and clerks. Son John Garsham to pay the priest who says the mass of S. John 18d. yearly, that the said priest pray for the testator's soul and for those of his father and mother &c. If the son fails to pay, the priest is to call him before the ordinary for punishment. (1½ acres of land were left to provide the money.)

Richard Gunston, clerk and vicar of Soham : 1545. Longe fo. 569.

To be buried on south side of Church against the vicarage. Burying, 7<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> days to be kept, his executor bestowing at each of them as he thinks most expedient. An honest stone to be laid on his grave. Guild of S. John 6s. 8d. (Qy whether at Soham or Walsall). Vicar of Fordham to have all his books, paying 7 marks of lawful money in 7 years, with which money his yearday was to be kept for 7 years bestowing at each 13s. 4d.; the residue 6s. 8d. he forgives the Said Vicar "for his paynes yearly by him to be taken to be present at my sayde yeare daies; Such books did cost and are worth much money more." Residue of property after paying debts &c. to be "given to yonge single folke of Soham toward their marriage." Faggots and other wood to be carried about the town and given to the poor at Executor's discretion. Witness, amongst others, Sir Matthew Lawson "my wyse prieste and curate."

Robert Pate, of Soham : 1545. Peterborough, M. fo. 165.

His soul to God and B.V.M. &c. Three pounds to be distributed among the poor at burying 7<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> days.

John Peehey : 1557. Peterborough, H. fo. 126.

To reparacons of Church of Soham 10s. Buried in Churchyard.

Thomas Peehye (? date). Peterborough, H. fo. 128.

In perfect remembrance &c. To high altar 20s. &c.

The rest are from Norwich Consistory Court.

John Baledyn, or Balodyn, Presbyter, of Parish Church of Soham : 1501. Popay fo. 106,

To be buried in S. Andrew's Churchyard. Soul to God, B.V.M. and All SS. To high altar for tithes forgotten 4s. To Blessed Mary of Pity, to S. John Baptist and to the Holy Trinity in the said Church, each 1lb. of wax. I leave a book called *Orculus Artium* to be chained in the Chapel of S. Mary in Soham Church. To Sir William my brother, 2 silver cups, one tippet of sarcenet and 2 books, *Golden Legend* and *Festivals* (of Saints?), if he will come for them; if not, to be sold. To Alice Hall, mattress, pair of sheets, bolsters, bed &c.; 2 platters and dishes, and 2 salt cellars of pewter, and a latten candlestick if she will come for them. To her father John Hall, a counterpane of black worsted. To Joan my wife (*sic*) a pair of beads of jet if she will come for them. To Thomas Baledyn my brother, 13s. 4d. and debts I owe him. To Margaret Besteneyson, a caput (perhaps a picture) of S. John Baptist. To John Hall, my jacket with lappets (or, corded). To Richard Chery, my russet gown &c. To Agnes Boteler, a silver cup. To the Chapel of the Blessed Mary in Walsingham, a pair of beads with a ring. Magister Doctor (*sic*) Sokborn (?) executor. Witnesses, John Gardener, William Melton, Thomas Palmer.

John Norfolk, of Hall St., Soham : 1520. Coppinger fo. 41.

To high altar 1 combe barley. To each House of Friars in Cambridge 3s. 4d. To daughter Joan, a bullock of 4 years. Whoever hath the acre of land at Hobshotts shall keep such year days as it was given for, and "ther ben 3 yeredays as yt apperyth in the Sexten book" and also who hath the  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of land that was Warner's shall pay the gild priest as it did afore, the which was 6d. And I gave to the gild priest  $\frac{1}{2}$  an acre of my own land, the which lieth next Warner's  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre, or else 6d. a year for the same. To Agnes my daughter, a bullock of 3 years. John Norfolk my son's son, to have both my closes with the lake, and 2 "wanette longyng thereto," on condition he keep my year day and my wife's, my father's and mother's and his father's and keep the bede roll to the same. To Robert Salisbury's children, each child of Edward Wake, a bullock. Robert Salisbury to have my house in Brook St. with the close and the lake—Ellen my wife to be executrix and residuary legatee.

Helen Yaxlie of Soham, widow : 1553. Beeles fo. 32.

To Alice Glofer my daughter, feather bed, bolster, pillows, a blanket of tartyne, and another the best I have, best gown &c.: cheese "fattes," great washing "bolle," my great "wourte boll," pewter, 3 best kerchiefs, a double rail, linen, a painted "hawlinge," an old violet gown that was my husband's, 2 tubs of the best I have, a brewing pan, a kettle, spit, cloth of sacken woven in twill for a bed, a carpet cloth to lay on a child's bed &c. &c. If the said daughter die before her husband, then the above to be divided among her children. Jane, daughter of Harry Yaxlie my son, to have 6s. at her marriage of my gift. To Margaret Lathbury, my second brass pot, a "keatill with a bite," 3 pewter platters, 3 saucers, a latten candlestick, one salt, 2 pair of sheets, table cloth, towel, blankets, pillows &c.; a little kettle of 3 pints, a painted cloth with images by my bed, one pot hangel, one pair of pot hooks, one pot hangel and one cradel, 5 ells of woollen cloth &c. To Harry Yaxlie

my son Richard's child, a coffer, "one shete of tyre and one shete of hurdouns." To Harry Yaxlie my son, a coverlet of yellow and green, and he is sole executor and residuary legatee. Witnesses, Harry Banyarde, Thomas Dowe, Wm Wilkins, Rich<sup>d</sup> Nethercote.

Thomas Brown of Soham : 1556. Beeles fo. 306, b.

To my Son John, a red haired bullock of 2 years old. To Thomas a brown haired bullock of 3 years. Residue to Mawte my wife, who is sole executrix. Witnesses, William Cooper, John Stanbridge, Edward Smeth.

Thomas Berne, gentleman, of Soham : 1557. Hastings fo. 139.

To be buried in parish Church of S. Andrew, Soham, and I give 6s. 8d. for the breaking of the ground. To my wife Anne all household goods and stuff and she is to occupy my lands until my son Edward is 21. To each of my daughters (no names given) 100 marks at her marriage. My wife to deliver to my son Edward when he is 21, sundry horses, implements of husbandry &c. Residue to my son Edward, and if he die without issue, to my wife Anne with remainder to daughters. Two acres of north part of Soham to John Marshall servant. My wife being now with child, if the child be a son, he is to have a house called "Reyners and Wyddis." Mention made of lands which testator's late father, Edward Bernes, bought of King Edward VI. Residue to wife, sole executrix. Witnesses, Peter Salisbury, Thomas Pechyr, John Salisbury, Edward Cromptley Spillman, Richard Masseyr and William Pype.

Anne Bernys, widow : 1557. Hastings fo. 197.

To be buried in Soham Church near my husband, and I give for breaking the ground 6s. 8d. I give towards restoring the ornaments for the ministration of Divine service there and the maintenance of the said Church 66s. My brothers George and Bartrand Themylthorpe to hold a close called Hennyne Hyll until my son Edward is 21. My son Edward to go to the University and then to an Inn of Court. Daughters Agnes and Mary to go to service with some mistress untill they marry or are 20. My sister Masseyr to bring up my daughter Bridget until she is ten. To my brother Robert Bernes, the house he dwelleth in until my son Edward is 21. Legacies to servants 20s. to 5s. each. George and Bartrand Themylthorpe and Robert Rugge, citizen and alderman of Norwich, to be executors, or if either refuse, then my brother Richard Massey to be one. Witnesses, Richard Hebbe, clerk, Matthew Lampson, clerk, John Pecher senior, John Salisbury, John Charles, and Thomas Themylthorpe.

Codicil Sept 30 1557.

Whereas at the date of the above will my daughter Myldred was not born, she is now to be added and put to service as the others. Witnesses as above except T. Themylthorpe.

Margarette Alleye, wief of John Allrie of Soham, wydowe : 1578. Register No. 81. fo. 233.

To the poor 20s. To Thomas Crople my son £8 13s. 4d. To Robert Bennett, a bushel of barley. To Richard Myles a bushel of barley and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a bushel of wheat. To John Robins, son of Oliver Robins, 13s. 4d. Residue to my son John Crople. Executors, John Crople my son, Oliver Robins, Mr. Edmond Dennie, clerk, of Elmham Norfolk, and John Morrell of Swaffham Market yeoman. Witnesses, Richard Myles Taylour, Thomas Tottanall, John Nethercote.

J. R. OLORENSHAW.

830.—Fire at Boston, 1761 (805).—The Editor regrets the insertion of this extract from *The Annual Register*. By a strange oversight he neglected to observe that the fire described took place at Boston, in America, and not at the Lincolnshire town.

831.—Maxey Churchwardens' Accounts, 1610.—There is only one sheet of accounts left among the documents of Maxey Church of 17th century date. They are written on a long single sheet of paper.

The account of John Turnell and Richard Clarke Churchwardens of Maxey: in Ann<sup>o</sup> Dni 1610: Received to the use of the tounse as followeth.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Inprimis. Received of francis Quarles esq <sup>r</sup> for one years rent in Ann <sup>o</sup> 1610 .....                           | xxvj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Received of Thomas Meggatt for one whole years rent in Ann <sup>o</sup> 1610 .....                               | x <sup>s</sup>                                       |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Received of Thomas Addeson for one whole years rent in Ann <sup>o</sup> 1610 .....                               | liij <sup>s</sup>                                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Received of Richard Clarke for one whole years rent in Ann <sup>o</sup> 1610 .....                               | xvj <sup>s</sup>                                     |
| Sum <sup>a</sup> tot of these particular receipts are .....  | liij <sup>li</sup> vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |
| Layings out as followeth.  |  |
| Inprimis Laid out to a glassier .....  | ij <sup>s</sup> liij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : ffor bread and wine at michas .....  | vij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out for bread and wine at Christmas .....   | vij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out at the visitacon at Oundell.....  | ix <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out for two bell Ropes .....  | liij <sup>s</sup>                                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out for bread and wine upon Palmsondale .....   | liij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It <sup>m</sup> : ffor bread and wine upon East <sup>r</sup> daie.....   | xj <sup>s</sup> liij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out for Iron woorke and neals .....   | x <sup>d</sup>                                       |
| It <sup>m</sup> : to Thomas Turnell and Richard Turnell for mending the bells .....  | xx <sup>d</sup>                                      |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out at Walldramhall at the daie of the perambulacon .....   | xij <sup>s</sup>                                     |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out at my Lo <sup>d</sup> : Bishopp <sup>s</sup> visitacon for o <sup>r</sup> charges at Peterborough ..... | xxliij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Bought a spade for the Church wch Cost .....   | xliij <sup>d</sup>                                   |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Laid out for two bell Ropes more .....   | ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It <sup>m</sup> : Paid to Richard Turnell for mending the baud- ricks and the bells .....  | liij <sup>s</sup> , viij <sup>d</sup>                |
| It. Paid to Bennyson for two quarte <sup>r</sup> bills .....   | viij <sup>d</sup>                                    |
| Sum <sup>a</sup> : tot. of these sen <sup>a</sup> ll: layings out .....  | liij <sup>li</sup> x <sup>s</sup> vj <sup>d</sup>    |
| So that there Remaineth due to us upon this ac- count of o <sup>r</sup> Layings out more than wee have received the sume of .....  | liij <sup>s</sup> x <sup>d</sup>                     |

Walldram Hall is situated at the extreme east end of the parish; it is fully four miles from Maxey Church, and only half a mile, in a straight line, from Peakirk Church. As a result of the Divided Parishes Act it is now, for civil purposes, in the parish of Northborough, though of course, for ecclesi-



astical purposes, it remains in the parish of Maxey. It is mentioned in several Acts of Parliament, being the extreme western point of the Fen district. There are references to the place in former numbers, as at Vol. II., pp. 260, 266; and Vol. III., p. 160. It can never have been a considerable building: it is now a mere cottage.

For Francis Quarles, one of the tenants of the church land, see Vol. I., p. 361. The family resided at Ufford. It will be noticed that the Holy Communion was celebrated four times a year, but not at quarterly intervals. There was no Celebration on Whitsunday, but two at Eastertide, namely, on Palm Sunday and Easter Day. Ed.

**832.—Rainfall in the Fens.**—The total quantity of rain recorded by me at Boston during the year 1899 was 18·73 inches, which fell on 141 days; the greatest fall on any one day being 1·25 inches in October. The total quantity is 4·20 inches below the average of the past 70 years, and 1·46 inches less than the average of any decennial period during that time. There has been, since 1884, an average annual deficiency below that of the past 70 years of 2·68 inches a year, or a total of 42·88 inches. The only year during this period when the fall was above the average, was 1886, when 25·25 inches were recorded. Between 1875–83 the excess of rain amounted to 44·15 inches. The last 10 years has yielded a less average quantity than any similar period since 1830.

The following has been the average fall at Boston for the decennial periods since 1830 :—

| Years.        | Inches. |
|---------------|---------|
| 1830-39 ..... | 22·58   |
| 1840-49 ..... | 24·58   |
| 1850-59 ..... | 20·72   |
| 1860-69 ..... | 23·43   |
| 1870-79 ..... | 24·28   |
| 1880-89 ..... | 24·77   |
| 1890-99 ..... | 20·19   |

Average of 70 years.....22·93

Boston, Jan. 12, 1900.

W. H. WHEELER.

**833.—Captain John Perry.**—Our readers who do not see *The Spalding Guardian* will be glad to peruse the following article which appeared in that paper on 30 Dec., 1899, under the heading of "A Forgotten Benefactor. The man who reclaimed the Fens, and stopped Dagenham Breach."

Many persons when glancing at the numerous features of interest in the interior of Spalding Parish Church may have noticed the massive mural tablet on the south side of the west entrance; but probably only few have troubled to peruse the lengthy inscription thereon, which indicates that the tablet marks the resting place of one of the greatest drainage engineers of the 18th century. To Captain John Perry the landowners of the Deepings and the whole of the surrounding district are probably more indebted than to any other person; for though no mention is made of the fact on the tablet, it was he who carried out the chief work of reclaiming the Fens. The inscription runs as follows:—

To the Memory of  
JOHN PERRY, Esq<sup>r</sup>. in 1693  
Commander of his Majesty King William's,  
Ship the *Cignet*; second Son of Sam<sup>l</sup>. Perry  
of Rodborough in Gloucestershire Gent. & of  
Sarah his Wife, Daughter of Sir Tho<sup>s</sup>. Nott, K<sup>t</sup>.  
He was several Years Comptroller of the  
Maritime works to Czar Peter in Russia, &  
on his Return home was Employed by y<sup>e</sup>  
Parliament to stop Dagenham Breach, which  
he Effected; and thereby Preserved the  
Navigation of the River of Thames, and  
Rescued many Private Familys from Ruin:  
he after departed this Life in this Town, and  
was here Interr'd, February 13th 1732, Aged  
63 Years.

This Stone was placed over him by the  
Order of WILLIAM PERRY of Penthurst in  
Kent Esq<sup>r</sup>. his Kinsman and Heir Male.

A correspondent has favoured us with the following interesting *résumé* of the career of Captain Perry, more especially relating to his works in this district.

It was whilst the repairs to Dagenham Breach were being executed that the Greenwich Whitebait Dinner was instituted, which has until recently been a great annual function. Parliament appointed a commission to view and report upon the progress of the works, which were situate on the north side of the Thames a little below Woolwich, and the members annually dined at Greenwich.

Captain John Perry was the second son of Samuel Perry, of Rodborough, in Gloucestershire, gentleman, and his mother was Sarah, the daughter of Sir Thomas Nott, Knight. He was born about the year 1669, and followed a seafaring life. King William III. appointed him at the early age of 24 commander of the war sloop "*Cygnet*," carrying 20 guns.

In 1698 he was engaged as comptroller of the Russian maritime works, at a salary of £300 a year and travelling expenses, by Czar Peter the Great, in whose employ he remained until 1712, when, on account of arrears of salary, and of his being compelled in an arbitrary manner to engage further in the Czar's service, he claimed the protection of the English ambassador, under whose influence he returned to England.

In 1716 he published "The State of Russia under the Oar Peter," a curious book, containing much information as to the important works in which he was engaged, and also telling of the ungenerous treatment he received.

After his return to England he was engaged in several engineering works, particularly the stopping of that vast and dangerous breach in the Thames bank, called Dagenham Breach (for which he was to receive £25,000). He also viewed and made important recommendations with reference to Dover and Dublin harbours, which need not here be dwelt upon.

In 1729 he entered into an agreement with the adventurers of Deeping Fen to have conveyed to him 5,929 acres of land in the Fens (which had been forfeited for non-payment of the drainage rates), upon his paying to their treasurer the sum of £4,000, and promising to extricate the Deeping Fen proprietors from the forlorn situation they were then in, consequent upon the succession of wet seasons, general scarcity of money, and neglect of the public works. In the following year he took up his abode in Spalding, having been appointed engineer to the adventurers of Deeping Fen. It is stated he was very subject to attacks of gout, which consequently soured his temper and undermined his constitution.

The general idea of his scheme was to make scours to deepen the outfall (by holding up the water while the tide was out and then letting off the scours to grind out the silt and sand), and to make sluices across the Welland in several places. He further proposed deepening the River Welland and making it wider from the locks and sluices through the town of Spalding to Fosdyke, and making a reservoir of Cowbit Wash, and another reservoir in the Marshes, opposite the Old Vernatts Outfall, near Cowhurn.

From these foundations he began his works of draining, and in 1730 he commenced constructing the great sluice in that part of the River Welland next Cowbit Wash, near to where the old Locks Windmill has until recently stood. This sluice had six doors, which were drawn up by men walking in a large wheel. When the doors were closed they held up the water in Cowbit Wash; and when the water was released the outfall was ground and scoured out, carrying away the silt at the bottom of the river, which had recently been loosened by "porcupines" and other contrivances, similar to the improved forms that may now be seen on the river bank near the site of Locks Mill. It was soon discovered that the silt by this means was not got rid of, but only moved, to settle a little lower down the river, as is still done at the present day. The sluice, having become decayed, was rebuilt in 1795.

The fame Captain Perry had already acquired, by stopping the Breach at Dagenham and by other works he had been employed in, was now of signal service, and served to forward his present schemes, by enabling him to raise supplies. In particular, the value of Fen lands advanced rapidly in price on so able an Engineer being appointed by the Adventurers as director of their works; so that the lands which had been forfeited for nonpayment of rates, and valued at only 6s. an acre, were sold by him at £3 per acre.

Captain Perry also erected the sluice at the end of the Old Vernatts Drain, expecting from it great things. This sluice continued for many years to be a good work, but through the shifting of the sands in the Welland it became of no service, and when in 1774 that Drain was carried down to the Reservoir, the sluice was dammed up and destroyed.

He also erected sluices at Surfleet Outfall, Podeshole, the Three Doors on Deeping Bank, and some others of less note within the Fens, besides repairing Barrier Bank. The Three Doors tunnel was erected in 1732, to

run the water in the Westlode in order to ease the Wash, but in 1813 the tunnel was taken up, and the materials sold.

Deepening the channel of the Welland from beyond Cowhurn to below Fosdyke was also attempted, a great number of workmen being employed to dig and barrow out the sand and silt. Captain Perry applied to the Adventurers for leave to hold up the "fresh" waters, but was refused, and in consequence this attempt proved ineffectual, for the tides filled the channel up almost as fast as the silt was taken out.

Captain Perry was utterly averse to "roading" the Rivers and Drains, being of opinion that water ran better through such impediments as were thereby removed than without them. This opinion was strangely contrary both to principle and experience.

The Captain's last attempt to improve the drainage of the Fens was to make an engine to force the waters out of the Fens into the Welland, but he died before it was brought to any perfection.

Notwithstanding his many retrograde notions in draining, and unskilful proceedings therein, these parts owe much to his merit and great skill in constructing the foundations of sea sluices upon bad ground, and by his most valuable invention or adaptation of dove-tailed piles.

The death of Captain Perry within three years after his appointment as the Adventurers' Engineer was a great loss, for in that short time he had accomplished much, and laid the foundation for much more to be carried out by his successors in office, the Messrs. Grundy and others. He was buried inside Spalding Church, where a white marble wall stone is erected to his memory.

In the April following his death, all his lands in Deeping Fen remaining unsold, about 3,859 acres, were sequestered for nonpayment of the taxes, and put under the care of Mr. Thomas Mason, of Deeping, by order of the Adventurers, and ultimately disposed of in payment of a debt owing by him to them.

It is recorded in the minutes of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society, of which Captain Perry was elected a member in 1730, that bones and the sole of a shoe were found by him 8 feet below the bed of the Welland, while putting down the sluice near Town's-end Hall. In his interesting work on the state of Russia, he speaks of his friend, Mr. Goodfellow (English Consul at Moscow in 1706). Possibly this Mr. Goodfellow was afterwards associated with Mr. Perry in reclaiming the Fens, and hence the name of the bridge over the Halls drain in Spalding Common. The name is also perpetuated in the National School at Spalding Common, which is called "Goodfellow's School."

The arms on the tablet are these :—

A fess embattled between three pears, a crescent within a crescent for difference. Crest, a dexter hand holding a dagger, issuing from a mural crown.

The pears are an instance of canting heraldry : the crescents indicate that Captain Perry was the second son of a second son. Some account of the monuments in Spalding church and of the persons and families commemorated is to be found in *The South Holland Magazine*: see Art. 407.

The Editor has ventured to print the inscription from a copy taken by himself in 1877. The spelling is believed to be exact, but the stonemason's punctuation has not been followed.

In Maurice Johnson's copy of *The Union of Honour*, the above arms are assigned to Perry of Penshurst ; the field is emblazoned azure ; the fess, argent ; and the pears, or. He gives, for Perry of Spalding, Vert, a chevron ermine between three pears or. Many of Captain Perry's original manuscripts, consisting of drawings, schemes, reports, letters, &c., are in the possession of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding.

**834.—Delinquents around Peterborough.**—An Ordinance made in Parliament in 1643, relating to the sequestration of the estates of delinquents, declares that those who voluntarily absented themselves from their usual places of abode, or shall go to any of the King's armies, raised without the consent of both Houses of Parliament, shall be reputed delinquents. This was preceded by an Ordinance of 1642, touching the conversion and application of the estates of certain notorious delinquents towards the supportation of the great charges of the Commonwealth.

A Committee of the Commons was appointed to manage the sequestration of estates, and to compound with the delinquents. The procedure was by petition, stating the nature and date of the delinquency, with a "particular" of the estate of the delinquent, and certificates of his having taken the National Covenant, and the Negative Oath, or Oath of Abjuration. The estate was valued "as it was before these troubles began."

Peter Whalley and Edward Budd were sequestrators for Northamptonshire. They returned to the Committee the names of 13 delinquents within the Liberty of Peterborough. These were:—Captain Styles, Walton ; Newdigate Poyntz, Dosthrup ; Dr. Cosin and Dean and Chapter of Peterborough ; Will<sup>m</sup> Hake, Peterborough ; Mathew Robinson, Longthorpe ; John Towers, Bishop of Peterborough ; Thomas Dove, Upton ; James Carrier, Helpston ; John Bourne, Ufford ; — Stydolph,

Wittering; Robert Dixon, Peterborough; Millicent Pratt, Dosthrup. The last named is noted P. and D., to indicate that he was a papist. The estates of papists were sold; the income of a delinquent's estates was sequestered, and an allowance of one-fifth made for the support of his wife and children.

The records of the Committee throw some light on the history of the royalists above-named.

*Robert Dickenson, of Peterborough.*

The Dickenson family were papists or reputed so to be, for when their fines were paid and estates discharged, they appear as petitioners to contract for their purchase. This family had long resided in Peterborough. In 1541, Roger Dikenson was a witness in a suit between Horsman, the crown bailiff of the town, and Abbot Chambers, who was unwilling to surrender the bailiwick. Robert, the delinquent, appears to have been his great-grandson. His petition, dated 23 June, 1646, says "that he was unfortunately drawne\* to beare arms for his Ma<sup>tie</sup> and being in Newarke when that garrison was lately surrendered, humbly prays that he may enjoy the benefit of the articles agreed upon the reduction thereof."

The particular of his estate is as follows :

25 Feb., 1646. A true perticular of all the estate reall and personall of Robert Dickenson of Peterborough in the countie of Northampton Gent. for wch he desires to compound.

He is seised in free to him and his heires of and in two messuages & tenements with thappurtenences lyeing and being in Peterborough aforsaid of the yearly value before these troubles of — 7<sup>li</sup> 0 0.

He is seised of a copyhold estate of inheritance of and in eleaven customary or copyhold mesuages or tenements scituate and being in Peterborough afors<sup>d</sup> of the yearly value before these troubles of 17<sup>li</sup> 0 0 out of which the compounder payes yerely to the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough the sum of iiii<sup>li</sup>.

The compounder hath noe personall estate.

He is indebted unto severall persons by Bond 40<sup>li</sup>.

There is due unto him in arrears of rent 10<sup>li</sup>.

This is a true perticular of all my estate reall and personal for wch I onely desire to compound to free the same from sequestration And I doe submit unto and undertake to satisfy such fine as shall be imposed on me by the Committee for composition with Delinquents at Goldsmith Hall in order to the freedom and discharge of my person and estate.

Robert Dickenson.

\* The royalists balloted for service in the field.

In 1646, his fine was fixed at £60, one sixth the value of his estate. He is described as of Peterborough and Canwick, co. Linc. He had a brother Henry who served the King three months at Colchester with horse and arms.

*Thomas Styles.*

The Styles family occupied a good position in the Liberty. Margaret Styles was grandmother of the Captain. On July 17, 1556, she made her will:—

"I Margaret Styles of Werrington within the diocese of Peterborough bequeath my soule to Almighty God and my body when it pleyth God to be buried in the common beryng place in Peterborough.\* Item I bequeath to Thomas Styles my son xl<sup>s</sup> and my freeholde at Helpston. My best brorde cloth to the highe autler in Werrington."

The Captain's fine at one-sixth of his estate, according to Newark Articles, was fixed at £242 10s., more than his "particular" seems to warrant:—

A partuclar of the estate of Thomas Styles of Paston in co<sup>y</sup> Northampton for which he desires to compound.

He is seised of an estate taile of certaine lands and tenements in Paston aforesaid worth yearly 30 0 0.

And is seised for two lives of certain other lands there held by two severall leases thone of the Bishop of Peterborough and thother of the Deane and Chapter there worth over and above the rents the yearly sum of 20 0 0.

And holds certain lands for his own life as tenant by the curtesie in Spaulding in co<sup>y</sup> Lincolne of the yearly value 35 0 0.

And is seised of an estate in fee of certain lands in the parish of Weston in co<sup>y</sup> Lincoln of the yearly value of 20 0 0.

And as to the petitioners estate in Lincolneshire the Committee refuse to suspend the sequestration upon suggestion that he is a papist albeit y<sup>r</sup> petn<sup>r</sup> was never indicted convicted or suspected thereof as may appear by these affidavits and certificate.

These are to certifie all whom these may concerne that Thomas Styles of Walton gent. was before these unfortunate distracted tymes a gentleman of qualitee liveinge amongst us and a true professor of the Protestant Religion and a just exerciser thereof both in publike and private wch he exprest in his dutiful service everie Lords day and in the religious education of his familie and in wch true religion we doe verillie believe the sayd Thomas doth firmly in his conscience mayneteyne.

In witnesse whereof being requested we could doe noe lesse but certifie under our handes this instant tenth day of September 1646.

Robert Laxton minister ibidem

Will<sup>m</sup> Sumner

John Wildbore

Gregory Stiles jun<sup>r</sup>

Will<sup>m</sup> Fryer

John Stevens

Robert Henson

John Woodfine

John foster

Edward Prier

the mark x of Francis Sutton

\* Cemetery. This was at the east end of the Cathedral.

There is a Peculiar Jurisdiction for the Liberties of Peterborough commonly called Borough Socon. And the Justices of Peace within the said Liberty have tyme out of mind hadd Commissions of the Peace Oyer and Terminer and Goale Delivery. And Thomas Styles of Walton within the said Liberty in the county of Northampton gent. hath not for the space of nine yeares past either binne convicted presented or complayned of for Recusancy.

Dated the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> day of July, Anno Dni 1649  
pr Godfridum Wildbore clicum  
pacis libertatis Peterborough pr<sup>tt</sup>.

*The Pratts of Overton and Whittlesey.*

Millicent Pratt, a papist, anticipated the sequestration of his estate by sale. He held Whaplode Manor and lands at Whittlesey, at Cherry Orton, and at Dogsthorpe. His estate came before the Committee in the petition of Anthony Pratt the younger, of Whittlesey, who was seized in fee of lands and rents to the yearly value before the wars of £13 17s., and was possessed of a horse and wearing apparel to the value of £11. He had bought the land from Millicent Pratt, but his title was called in question by Robert Edwards, of Stibbington, who in his petition, 1665,

Begs the discharge from sequestration of copyhold lands called "Caules Croft," in Whittlesey surrendered 12 years ago, when petitioner was imprisoned at Huntingdon for debt, to Millicent Pratt of Orton, for payment of petitioner's debts, but Pratt having got possession neglected to pay the debts and suffered him to be in prison 3 years till his release was procured by others.

The Committee made an order for the parties to try the title at law; and the papist deeming it prudent to keep out of the way, Edwards' claim was allowed and the sequestration discharged.

There are several references and reports about this estate; an example shows how searching an enquiry was made to check the evasions of delinquents.

To the honble. Comm<sup>rs</sup>. for Compounding &c sitting at  
Haberdashers Hall, London these present\* ———.  
Gentlemen

We findeinge incumbrances upon the whole estate of Millicent Pratt lyeing in Orton Waterville als Cherry Orton sequestred for his recusancy and delinquency did in obedience to o<sup>r</sup> instructions suspend ye rents in ye tennants hands according as we menconed in o<sup>r</sup> returnes sent up to yor hon<sup>rs</sup>. since wch we findeinge nothing done by them in order to yo<sup>r</sup> allowing of the said incumbrances did about 3 months after summon the tennants

\* S.P. Interreg., Comm. for Delinquents, 136.



and occupiers of ye s<sup>d</sup> estate to pay in their rents according to o<sup>r</sup> instructions for that purpose. Upon which summons Mr. Anthony Pratt: one of ye s<sup>d</sup> tenants and occupiers appeared to us and pretended that there had bene an endeavor to cleere the s<sup>d</sup> estate and alleged ye reason why it could not be effected was because o<sup>r</sup> s<sup>d</sup> return could not be found with you and then engaged that in case ye said incumbrances were not allowed of by yo<sup>r</sup> honors and an order obtained for that purpose and delivered to us within one month then next following, he the s<sup>d</sup> Anthony Pratt would pay both ye Michs rent 1650 and Lady day rent 1651 for ye whole estate notwithstanding wch engagement ye s<sup>d</sup> Anthony hath failed to procure such order or pay such rent. We did therefore uppon ye 12 of this present february repaire to ye s<sup>d</sup> Anthony Prats house in Orton afs<sup>d</sup> and seised all such cattle as we found ther uppon ye ground for ye arrears of 3 halfe years expired at Michs last, and are about to let ye tilth and pease land forthwith least ye season of ye yeare should be lost according to ye 32 clause of o<sup>r</sup> first instrucons doe also returne you ye name of ye said Anthony Pratt for one who hath neglected and refused to pay ye money due to ye Common Wealth but by this way of compulsion. And for as much as since the seizure and renewall of ye said goods Mr. Millicent Pratt of Rutland brother of the s<sup>d</sup> Anthony with some o<sup>r</sup> persons doe lay claime to parte of the said cattle pretending that they were put there to joisting, We humbly crave yo<sup>r</sup> direction whether if uppon good testimony theis proving the cattle so claimed to be theirs we may deliver them ye same againe or whether wee ought to sell them (the whole distress so taken not amounting to ye arrears). Thus, we entreate you w<sup>d</sup> be pleased to resolve us with what speed you may ye cattle, in ye interim lying undisposed of. Gent<sup>l</sup>. we here confesse a mistake in o<sup>r</sup> returning this estate of Mr. Millicent Pratt, formerly mencioning it to lye in Orton Longville and also in ye particular and ye vallew thereof; all wch we hope to amend in o<sup>r</sup> next returne wch we intend and shall endeavor to accomplish accord to the tenor of yo<sup>r</sup> l<sup>r</sup> and craving yo<sup>r</sup> pardon we subscribe o<sup>r</sup>selves.

Your most humble servants

John Leete.

Rich<sup>d</sup> Pigot.

Huntingdon

Febry ye 18 1651.

It is not recorded that any fine was imposed on Mr. Pratt. He had some interest with the Committee, for their county valuer, Mr. Daniel Reading, had become, with Anthony Pratt the elder, a joint owner of Whaplode Manor by purchase from Millicent Pratt. This position of Mr. Reading accounts for the following letter:—

To his much honord ffriend Mr. Reading at his house

Jourdanes Hall these present ——— .

Sir,

I haveing beene much bound to you for many former favours I cannot well satisfie you as yet according to my mind being disturbed by the sequestrators and tenants for my land I have compounded for lying in Wittlesea and though I have fully payd (as you know and by your help) the whole composition for the say<sup>d</sup> lands and in due time and for that end had an order out of the court for the freeing of the same wch I have not only shewed but delivered to them wch they not only disobey but hold me from the profits of the same. My humble entreaty to you is that will you advise my father what is best to do in it as also to doe me what favour

you can that I may enjoy my right and if I live. I shall not onely requite  
you but rest as I am bound

Your obliged servant

Anthony Pratt.

I have busines that I cannot come myself as yet but betwixt this and  
the next terme I will waite on you. I have sent you my order and their  
warrant upon my former order; from Cherry Orton Hall, this 27  
of April 1651.

*John Bourn.*

Delinquents were not safe when their estates were discharged  
by the Committee for Compounding. They might be assessed  
by the Committee for the Advance of Money. This Committee  
was established by Parliament in 1642 for the purpose  
of furnishing the sinews of war. They were to obtain loans  
of money for the public service. Repayment was guaranteed  
by the public faith of the Kingdom with 8 per cent. interest.  
The assessments made on  $\frac{1}{6}$  of real and  $\frac{1}{3}$  of personal estate,  
were enforced by distress, and sold "by the candle." Party  
distinction was ignored at first, but after 1645, only  
delinquents were assessed. The orders of this Committee are  
preserved. In May, 1651 they made this order:—

In the case of John Bourne of Ufford gent. concerning an assessment  
upon him for his 20<sup>th</sup> part upon perusal of the perticuler of his estate and  
calculating the sum the 20<sup>th</sup> part doth amount unto the some of fifty five  
pounds. It is ordered that he do within fourteen days pay to Mr. Dawson  
our treasurer the sum of twenty one pounds, he shall then have a comission  
into the country to examine him to his debts according to course and he  
do make proof of what he hath paid for his 5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> part in the country  
which shalbe defaulted.

Notes on others of the delinquents will be given in a sub-  
sequent Part.

L. GACHES.

**835.—Memorials of Boston.**—In these cuttings from  
*The Boston Guardian* of 21 Oct., 1899, one or two slight errors  
have been corrected.

Memorials of Boston in the olden time are not very numerous, and are  
gradually disappearing as improvements are carried out in the town.  
Recently in pulling down some houses in St. George's-lane, Mr. Dickinson,  
builder, removed some carved oak beams and other timber, and also a stone  
shield. Mr. Dickinson, rightly thinking that it would be a pity if these  
relics should be destroyed, presented them to the Corporation Park on  
condition that they should be taken care of. Visitors to the Park will  
have noticed over the pathway leading from the main avenue to the back of  
the Hospital that an archway has been formed of this old timber. The  
oaken baulks with other wood from the buildings, have been made into a  
stand on supports over the entrance of the pathway. There are three

portions of beam, each some eight or ten feet long. They are carved with circular devices, and in the centre of the respective blocks are the original out inscriptions in raised letters, which are the chief features of interest in the beam. On top we read the initials and date, "T.H., 1640," and below, "Thomas : Hovl : Dernes : 1640," in bold capitals. The centre portion of the beam has been re-planed and is in three panels. It looks wonderfully fresh and sound.

The middle panel bears the inscription, in small raised capitals, "The wood of which this is made was taken from St. George's Hall, Boston"; while the side panels tell us the memorial was erected in 1899. The new carving on these panels has been cleverly executed. Above, the wood-work is carried to a point, and is surmounted by a centrepiece. Reposing near on the banks of the walk are two stone shields bearing family arms, initials and date. One of them was taken from the hall. The other, at the back of the archway, was found by Mr. J. Lucas buried about two feet underground when excavating for Messrs. Soulbys' new premises in West-street, and was presented by him to the Corporation. The date, 1674, is a little later than that on the beam. The letters on it are, "S.I.E.S." The whole arrangement is a striking and interesting addition to the scenery of the Park.

As the archway and the inscriptions on it have been a source of considerable attraction to frequenters of the Park, the following description of the building from which the timber was taken, abridged from Thompson's "History of Boston," may be interesting. The stone in the front is the one referred to by Thompson. "In St. George's-court, on the north side of Pinfold-lane," says Thompson, "is an ancient house called Lodowick House, but said by tradition to have been St. George's Manor House, or probably Hall. A stone shield in the front of this house bears the Lodowick arms; the letters on this shield, 'T.L.' and 'R.L.' at the base of the shield, denote Thomas and Rachel Lodowick. An old deed states that this house was built in the reign of Henry VIII. The first mention of the Lodowick family was in 1569, when Hercules Lodowick held a message of the Corporation on the West side of the Haven. Thomas Lodowick was one of the Common Council in 1665, and Chamberlain in 1673. He held St. George's Hall in 1674."

836.—**Woad** (299).—In *Nature* of 1 Feb., last, is an article by Mr. C. B. Plowright on the "Blue Colour in Woad." It is well known that the growth of this plant is confined to the Fens, and that it is only cultivated at four places, namely, Wyberton, Skirbeck, and Algarkirk, near Boston, and Parson Drove in the Isle of Ely. There is a tradition that the ancient Britons dyed themselves blue with this colour; Cæsar, in his account of this country,\* states that "all the Britons dye themselves with woad (*se vitro inficiunt*), which makes them a sky-blue colour, and thereby more terrible to their enemies." This plant was also used for fixing the colour of the famous Lincoln Green cloth. The saying

\* Cæsar de Belle Gallico, v, 14.

common in the Fens, "as blue as woad," shows that the impression still exists that woad is used as a blue dye. As a matter of fact it is only used in the manufacture of indigo blue, for fixing the colour. A cloth dyed with indigo thus treated retains its colour better, and "resists the effect of sunshine, rain, and sea air better than any other, but it is so expensive that only the best articles are dyed in this way." The term "woaded" is now, it appears, applied in the trade to any fast or permanent indigo blue. Mr. Plowright has made a series of experiments with the view of obtaining an infusion of blue colour from the woad, but so far has only been able to obtain one that acts on woollen cloth in dyeing it, not the dark blue colour usually associated with woad, but a pale azure blue; and this colour will not withstand the action of soap. Woad contains a certain amount of indigo, the quantity and colour varying, with the age of the plant, from light to dark blue; and this in dyeing becomes more or less green.

Mr. Plowright points out that woad was used for dyeing before indigo was introduced into Europe as an article of commerce, which occurred about the middle of the 16th century; and there must have been some process then in use, the knowledge of which is now lost.

A full description of the cultivation of this plant will be found in *The History of the Fens of South Lincolnshire*, pp. 400-1.

W. H. WHEELER.

**837.—Monumental Inscriptions in Elm Church (814).—**In the inscription No. 12 given in the above article, after the date of the death of Ann, wife of David Waite, the age is accidentally omitted. It should be:—"Aged 59 Years."

These additional memorials, supplied by the Rev. Augustus S. Stokes, Vicar of Elm, have been placed in the church since those previously given were copied.

On the north wall of the chancel is a brass in memory of the Rev. Edward Swann, Vicar here for 20 years, who died 1883. On the south wall is a tablet to William Moore, J.P., of Elm House, where he resided for 53 years: born 9 Jan., 1800; died 9 Mar., 1882. Above is a brass in memory of his widow, Elizabeth Moore, and 5 of their children.

There are also two more memorial windows: one to Georgiana Sybella Jackson, who died 4 Oct., 1874; and one to Caroline Mary Jackson, who died in 1885, Fanny, wife of Sir John Molyneux, who died in 1893, and Emily Weldon Jackson, who died in 1867.

**838.—The King's 10,000 Acres.**—At the Restoration, several persons who had lost their estates by adhering to the King's cause, petitioned for a grant of some part of the 10,000 acres in the Bedford Level which were reserved for the King's use. Francis Underwood, of Whittlesey, who had been a colonel in the army of the Parliament, obtained a grant of 1156 acres "under pretence of his good service to His Majesty in the management of his work of draining the fens."

This seemed strange to those who had lost all in the royal cause. Dr. Hudson's widow went begging.\* Alexander Downinge was also another petitioner who pointed out the wrong done to the King's service by the grant to a rebel colonel. He had served loyally. His father, Major-General John Downinge lost life and estate in the King's cause,† and his mother had spent the small remainder of her fortune in vain solicitations.

His petition in the year 1661 is as follows:—

To the Kg<sup>ts</sup> most Exc<sup>ts</sup>. Ma<sup>ties</sup> the humble pet<sup>r</sup>. of Alexander Downinge esq<sup>r</sup>  
Humbly sheweth

That whereas Leut<sup>t</sup>. Coll. Francis Underwood of Whittlesey in the Isle of Ely hath upon pretence of serving yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>tie</sup> and other things by him alleaged obteyned for himself and his sonne a considerable gratuity from yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ty</sup>—yo<sup>r</sup> petn<sup>r</sup> being able to prove hee never served yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ty</sup> but was one of his cruelliest and bloodiest persecutors that were agst yo<sup>r</sup> Ma<sup>ty</sup>

\* See Article 517.

† Major-General John Downinge, not Major-General George Downinge, who was Scout-Master of the Parliament's Forces.

cause and friends and did not onely declare himself soe in his actions before yo<sup>r</sup> Maty's happy restauration but in his discourse hath declared as much since.

May it therfore please yo<sup>r</sup> sacred Mat<sup>tie</sup>  
to hear yo<sup>r</sup> petn<sup>rs</sup> witnesses agt the said  
Underwood who are very sufficient people  
and able to prove the premises

And yo<sup>r</sup> petitioner will ever pray &c.

This petition was lodged with this letter for Sir Henry Bennet, Principal Secretary of State :—

These  
for Sir Henery Bennett, K<sup>t</sup>. principall  
Secretary of State at Whitt-hall  
present ———

Sir

I have been severall times to wayght upon yo<sup>r</sup> honor about the inclosed but never could find a seasonable oportunity and nowe not being in a condicon to waight upon you for some fewe days I have made bould to send my Brother to waight upon yo<sup>r</sup> hon<sup>r</sup>. w<sup>th</sup> this knowledge of what is mentioned in my peticon; first that Underwood hath been a great Rebill against the King and his intrest both before and since his happy restauracon and also was fully paid off according to his contract for his services in the fenn and that these are all he can allege for himself wch I can verie well prove by mane of his neighbors So though my desire be that such men sh<sup>d</sup> not receave his Mat<sup>ties</sup> favors or as I have ben promised anything I could find out that weare reasonable if I prove these things against Underwood I hope this may be as fitt for me as any other. The thing is worth 500£ a year beside what he pays for it. I will fully prove this against him so I may have yo<sup>r</sup> honor's assistance and if it be obtained in my name I freely yeald to have it equally divided between yo<sup>r</sup> honor and yo<sup>r</sup> most obliged humble and unfeyned servant.

A. Downinge.

Mr. Downinge did not then obtain any part of the King's acres: but His Majesty provided him with a commission of captain in the Foot Guards, a force that was raised at the Restoration.

L. G.

**839.—Ancient Peterborough Deeds.**—I have three deeds of the fifteenth century relating to a small property in Peterborough; they came into my possession upon the death of an antiquarian friend many years ago. How he acquired them I do not know. It may have been by purchase; or he may have borrowed them to peruse and never returned them because they were never demanded, for I must acknowledge that the race of antiquaries is credited with the character of being a secretive and predatory tribe; or they may have been given him by the owner, as being of no value except to an

antiquary. In any case I shall be pleased to restore them to any person who can establish any right to have them.

The property described is a cottage with curtilage in Westgate. It is first in the possession of a widow, Matilda Oxneye, who grants it to three Chaplains, one of whom is her own son. It does not say what other position or preferment if any the grantees had ; nor is any trust expressed. This grant was made on the Feast of S. Bertine, the Abbot, 5 Sep., 1426. In 28 years it had become the property of Ralph Bemund of Woodston, who was not mentioned in any way in the former grant. He makes the property over to John Morborn, Chaplain, on Michaelmas Day, 1454. In the third deed the same John Morborn grants the cottage to four men, two of them being Chaplains. This was on 20 May, 1477.

The cottage was situate on the north side of Westgate. The street bounded on the south ; a tenement belonging first to John Jolyf, and afterwards to William Rest, on the east ; and a tenement and garden of the Cellarer of the Monastery on the west and north.

## (I.)

*Solant presentes et futuri quod Ego Matilda Oxneye de Burgo Sancti Petri in libera viduetate mea dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Johanni Dunsby Ricardo Oxney filio meo et Johanni Botylbrygg capellanis de eadem unum otagium cum curtilagio adjacente sicut situm est in villa de Burgo Sancti Petri in quodam vico vocato Westgate inter tenementum Celerarij conventus de Burgo predicto ex parte occidentali et tenementum Johannis Jolyf ex parte orientali et extendit se in longitudine a via regia de Westgate usque ad gardinum dicti Celerarij habendum et tenendum predictum otagium cum curtilagio adjacente cum omnibus suis pertinenciis prefatis Johanni Ricardo et Johanni heredibus et assignatis suis de capitalibus dominis feodi illius per servicia inde debita et de jure consueta et ego vero predicta Matilda et heredes mei predictum otagium cum curtilagio adjacente et cum omnibus suis pertinenciis prefatis Johanni Dunsby Ricardo Oxney filio meo et Johanni Botylbrygg capellanis heredibus et assignatis suis contra omnes gentes Warantzabimus in perpetuum In cuius rei testimonium huc presenti carte sigillum meum Apposui Hic testibus Thoma Garton de Burgo Sancti Petri Stephano Draper de eadem Willelmo Daventre de eadem Johanne Hamerton de eadem Johanne Smyt de eadem et multis aliis Datum apud Burgum Sancti Petri in festo Sancti Bertini Abbatis Anno regni Regis Henrici sexti post conquestum quinto.*

## (II.)

*Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Radulphus Bemund de Wodeston Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noveritis me prefatum Radulphum remisisse relaxasse et omnino pro me heredibus et Assignatis meis in perpetuum quiete clamasse Johanni Morborna Capellano heredibus et Assignatis suis totum jus meum statum et*

clameum que unquam habui habeo seu aliquo modo jure vel titulo infuturum habere potero de et in uno Cotagio cum curtilagio adjacente sicut situatum est in villa de Burgo Sancti Petri in quodam vico vocato Westgate inter Tenementum Celarij conventus de Burgo predicto ex parte occidentali et Tenementum Willelmi Rest ex parte orientali et extendit se in longitudine A via regia de Westgate versus Austrum usque ad Gardinum dicti Celarij versus boriale. Ita videlicet quod nec Ego prefatus Radulphus Bemund nec heredes mei nec aliquis alius pro me seu nomine meo aliquod jus vel clameum in predicto Cotagio cum suis pertinenciis decetero exigere clamare seu vindicare potuerimus infuturum. Set ab omni accione juris et clamei inde prohibiti simus totaliter exclusi per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti Scripto Sigillum meum Apposui. Hijs testibus Laurencio Edwards de Burgo predicto Nicholao Gibson Smyth Roberto Lowth Willelmo Sewall et Johanne Fyllyngham de eadem et multis alijs. Datum apud Wodeston predictum in Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangelii. Anno regni Regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum Anglie Tricesimo tercio.

(III.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod Ego Johannes Morborn Capellanus de Burgo Sancti Petri dedi concessi et hac presenti Carta mea confirmavi Thome Blokwyn and Johanni Hore Capellanis de Burgo predicto Willelmo Kyng et Johanni Crosse de eadem Unum Cotagium cum curtilagio adjacente sicut situatum est in Villa de Burgo predicto in quodam Vico vocato Westgate inter Tenementum Celarij Conventus de Burgo predicto ex parte occidentali et Tenementum Willelmi Rest ex parte orientali et extendit se in longitudine A Via regia de Westgate versus Austrum usque ad Gardinum dicti Celarij versus boriale. Habendum et tenendum predictum Cotagium cum omnibus suis pertinencijs prefatis Thome Blokwyn et Johanni Hore Capellanis Willelmo Kyng et Johanni Crosse hereditibus et assignatis suis de Capitalibus Dominis feodi illorum per servicia inde debita et de jure consueta. Et ego vero predictus Johannes Morborn Capellanus et heredes mei predictum Cotagium cum curtilagio adjacente et cum omnibus suis pertinencijs prefatis Thome Blokwyn et Johanni Hore Capellanis Willelmo Kyng et Johanni Crosse hereditibus et assignatis suis contra omnes gentes Warantisabimus et inperpetuum defendemus. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti Carte Sigillum meum Apposui Hijs testibus Ricardo Skyrnot Willelmo Beryll generosis de Burgo predicto Laurencio Edwards Willelmo Rest Johanne Byrde Thoma Lame et Johanne Fyllyngham de eadem et multis alijs. Datum apud Burgum predictum Vicesimo die Maij. Anno regni Regis Edwardi quarti decimo septimo.

We append a translation of the first of these deeds.

Let men now and hereafter know that I Matilda Oxneye of Burgh S. Peter in my free widowhood,\* have given, granted, and by this present charter confirmed, to John Dunsby, Richard Oxney, my son, and John Bottlebridge, Chaplains, of the same, one cottage with curtilage adjacent as it is situated in the town of Burgh S. Peter in a certain street called Westgate, between a tenement of the Cellarer of the Convent of Burgh aforesaid on the west, and a tenement of John Jolyf on the east, and it extends lengthwise from the King's high

\* That is, having power of disposal.



way of Westgate to the garden of the said Cellarer\*: To have and to hold the aforesaid cottage with curtilage adjacent with all its appurtenances to the above-named John, Richard, and John, their heirs and assigns from the chief lords of that fief by the services from it due and by right accustomed. And I the aforesaid Matilda and my heirs the aforesaid cottage with curtilage adjacent and with all its appurtenances to the above named John Dunsby, Richard Oxney, my son, and John Bottlebridge, Chaplains, their heirs and assigns, against all people will warrant for ever. In testimony whereof to this present charter I have placed my seal, these being witnesses; Thomas Garton, of Burgh S. Peter, Stephen Draper, of the same, William Daventry, of the same, John Hamerton, of the same, John Smyt, of the same, and many others. Dated at Burgh S. Peter on the Feast of S. Bertine, the Abbot, in the fifth year of the reign of King Henry the sixth after the conquest.

In the second deed the witnesses are all men of Burgh S. Peter, Nicholas Gibson, Smith (christian name omitted), Robert Loweth, William Sewall, and John Fillingham.

In the third deed the grantees are Thomas Blokwyn and John Hore, Chaplains, William King, and John Cross, all of Burgh S. Peter. The witnesses are also all of the same place, Richard Skyrmot, William Bevill, gentlemen, Laurence Edwards, William Rest, John Bird, Thomas Lane, and John Fillingham.

The seal to the first deed is an interesting one. It has a crowned female figure, standing, holding (apparently) a wheel. Round the figure is a legend in capital letters of which nearly all can be made out. When perfect it was:—S<sup>A</sup> KATERINA ORA P(ro) ME. The second seal has simply a large R. The third has a pelican standing on its nest, plucking at its own breast, with young ones below.

From endorsements of a very much later date, on each of the documents, it appears that the cottage was at some later period known as John Costin's house. This might be the means of identifying it.

Ed.

\* The other deeds mention that the Cellarer's garden was on the north.

**840.—Corpus Christi Gild at Deeping S. James.**—Among the documents in the custody of the Rev. S. W. Skene, Vicar of Deeping S. James, is a small book of exceptional interest. By his permission it has been transcribed and is here printed. The book is of paper, unbound, and contains now 32 pages, each 8½ in. by 6 in. in size. Originally it appears to have had 52 pages: but 11 leaves, which were never written upon, have been cut out, and one leaf, pp. 27 and 28, has been inserted.

The book contains the accounts of Corpus Christi Gild for 9 years, from 32 Hen. VIII. to 3 Edw. VI. Such accounts throw much light upon the social life of country places 350 years ago. We see for instance, from this book, how the Gild had property in lands and houses, and owned a Gild-house; how it defrayed the expenses of certain memorial services for deceased members or benefactors; how it undertook some of the cost of church repairs, and even the purchase of a surplice; how it paid for work at the bridge; how it (once at least) owned a cow, which it let out on hire; how it was responsible for the payment of certain public liabilities, such as subsidies, purchase of arrows for archery practice, "benevolence money" for the King, and occasionally for taxes and levies.

The transcript has been made with great care: but it is not possible to reproduce all the marks of contraction and abbreviation. Where well-known symbols are used, such as those for *per*, *pro*, *sur*, and the like, these are printed at full; and the final *n*, indicated by a short bow over the last letter, is printed in the same way. A very few words have not, as yet, been interpreted, perhaps not correctly read; any explanation of these will be acceptable. Copious notes are added at the conclusion. It should be mentioned that many of the pages are crossed out, as though this were a rough copy of the accounts, and they were afterwards entered into another book: or perhaps this crossing out was done when the accounts were audited and passed. There was another Gild, Trinity Gild (page 12 of the account book), and possibly also a Gild of Our

Lady (page 1) ; but it looks as if their accounts were merged in these. Besides the Gild-house there was a town-house, of which the Gild undertook the repairs.

(Page 1.)

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Rentts receyvd by the hands of Wyllm Webst <sup>r</sup> the xxxij <sup>d</sup> yere of owr                     |  |
| sov <sup>r</sup> ant lorde Kyng Henrre the viij <sup>t</sup>   |  |
| In p <sup>r</sup> m <sup>e</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of thoms hubarde.....  | viijs                                    |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of anys thakar .....  | iijs                                     |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of herre Allam for rentt of a howse .....                                     | vjs viijs <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It <sup>r</sup> the same herre for a howse .....   | ijs viijs <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It rec <sup>d</sup> of Robart ayston.....  | viijs                                    |
| It of Tomas Pavy.....  | viijs                                    |
| It Recvy <sup>d</sup> of Rychard Egar .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup>                        |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Robrt harwarde .....   | xx <sup>s</sup>                          |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Wyllm Jobssun Wyffe .....  | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd                      |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Wyllm Powell for a hemland <sup>1</sup> .....                              | vjs viijs <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of rycharde herryng for rent of ou <sup>r</sup> ladye yeld <sup>2</sup> howse | v <sup>s</sup>                           |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of rycharde Edwards for rent .....  | vjs v <sup>d</sup>                       |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Jefforye enrolde for rent of a cove .....                                  | iijs                                     |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Jhon smythe for tond <sup>1</sup> rent .....                               | v <sup>s</sup>                           |
| Sm totall .....  | iiij <sup>d</sup> xvjs iiij <sup>d</sup> |

(Page 3.)

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Expences for maky <sup>s</sup> mapullton obytt for dyryge & other chargs   | iiij <sup>s</sup> viijs <sup>d</sup> |
| It <sup>r</sup> for the obytt of thoms goodlake .....  | iijs j <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It <sup>r</sup> y <sup>s</sup> obytt for the brether and syst <sup>n</sup> of corp <sup>s</sup> c <sup>s</sup> ty gylde..... | iijs vijs <sup>d</sup>               |

(Page 4.)

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> for the queyworde <sup>1</sup> of Jhon thak <sup>r</sup> ..... | viijs <sup>d</sup> |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> for the lyg <sup>t</sup> of Sr thoms messer debytt .....       | viijs <sup>d</sup> |
| It rec <sup>d</sup> queyworde <sup>1</sup> of m <sup>r</sup> gery cattell .....                 | iiij <sup>d</sup>  |

(Page 5.)

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| A book made by the hands of Wyllm Webst <sup>r</sup> the xxxij <sup>d</sup> yere of the  |                        |
| reyng of owr Kyng Henrre for occupyng for the gylde of corp <sup>s</sup>                 |                        |
| c <sup>s</sup> sti as heare aft <sup>r</sup> apperyth                                    |                        |
| In p <sup>r</sup> imis rec <sup>d</sup> of robrt aystun for rent .....                   | viijs                  |
| mo <sup>o</sup> X <sup>o</sup> fer <sup>7</sup> Stevyn .....                             | x <sup>s</sup>         |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of Wyllm beare for rent.....                            | viijs                  |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of rycharde Edgare.....                                 | iiij <sup>s</sup>      |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of herre Alam .....                                     | vjs viijs <sup>d</sup> |
| It <sup>r</sup> the same herre for the howse ou <sup>r</sup> the waye <sup>s</sup> ..... | ijs viijs <sup>d</sup> |
| ij It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of bettrys thak <sup>r</sup> <sup>9</sup> .....      | iijs                   |
| mo <sup>o</sup> hen manby  |                        |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of Ellysabth lyon for a howse.....                      | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd    |
| It <sup>r</sup> rec <sup>d</sup> of thoms hubarde mo <sup>o</sup> Thomas baker .....     | viijs                  |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of alls herryng for our ladye yelde howsse .....        | v <sup>s</sup>         |
| It <sup>r</sup> Rec <sup>d</sup> of Robrt harwarde for rent .....                        | xx <sup>s</sup>        |
| It Rec <sup>d</sup> of Jhon Smythe for Sayntt Jams ac <sup>10</sup> .....                | v <sup>s</sup>         |

(Page 6.)

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| queywords <sup>1</sup>   |                    |
| In p <sup>r</sup> m <sup>e</sup> Wyllm grassun .....   | iijs               |
| It <sup>r</sup> als phyllypp.....  | iiij <sup>d</sup>  |
| It thoms smythe .....  | xij <sup>d</sup>   |
| (after a space)  |                    |
| Jhon smythe for ij yers rent of saynt Jam <sup>s</sup> ac <sup>s</sup> x <sup>s</sup> dew at |                    |
| myhellmas next   |                    |
| It <sup>r</sup> for thacke and mowynge .....   | xvijs <sup>d</sup> |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| payd for mappulton obytt by ye hands of Jhon Smythe.....  | liij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>               |
| payd to Wyllm grang <sup>r</sup> for caryage of thake .....   | x <sup>d</sup>                                    |
| payd to Rog <sup>r</sup> Bradryk for owt rents <sup>11</sup> and m <sup>c</sup> cyments <sup>12</sup> ..... | viij <sup>d</sup>                                 |
| payd to the bale <sup>13</sup> for owt rent .....   | liij <sup>s</sup> ijd <sup>d</sup> q <sup>r</sup> |
| It for thak gatheryng.....  | liij <sup>d</sup>                                 |

(Page 7.)

A book made by the hands of Jhon Smythe & gylbarde Warde beyng occupyars for the gyld of corp<sup>s</sup> c<sup>r</sup>st<sup>l</sup> the xxxiiij<sup>d</sup> yere of owr sou<sup>r</sup>aynt lorde Kynge henre the viij<sup>t</sup>

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| In p <sup>m</sup> <sup>s</sup> recevyde of ellysabeth lyon for rentt.....                                    | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd <sup>d</sup>    |
| recevyde of Wyllm beere for rent.....  | viij <sup>s</sup>                   |
| It' recevyde of Rawfe a clowon Wyffe rent .....  | xv <sup>s</sup>                     |
| It' Recevyde of herre Allam .....  | vi <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>   |
| It' of y <sup>e</sup> same man for y <sup>e</sup> howse ou <sup>r</sup> y <sup>e</sup> waye .....            | ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>   |
| It <sup>e</sup> Rc <sup>d</sup> of Essabett Beare .....  | viij <sup>s</sup>                   |
| lattn y <sup>e</sup> same to c <sup>r</sup> stoffer steven for x <sup>s</sup> and beare charge <sup>14</sup> |                                     |
| It' Rc <sup>d</sup> of hewe manbye .....   | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd <sup>d</sup>    |
| It' Rawff a clowon Wyff for rent payde .....   | xliij <sup>s</sup> xjd <sup>d</sup> |
| y <sup>t</sup> remaynyth in y <sup>e</sup> hands of Robrt tye  |                                     |
| It' Thoms hubarde hys rentt payde.....   | viij <sup>s</sup>                   |
| It' Rc <sup>d</sup> of Robrt Aystun hys rentt .....  | viij <sup>s</sup>                   |
| It' Thoms Bak <sup>r</sup> hys rent payde.....   | v <sup>s</sup>                      |
| It' R <sup>d</sup> of Rycharde Edwards hs rent payde .....   | vj <sup>s</sup> vd <sup>d</sup>     |

(Page 8.)

The xxxv<sup>d</sup> yere

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| rents unppayde Wyllm grawng <sup>r</sup> for londe .....    | vi <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |
| Rycharde Edgare hs rent unpayde .....                       | liij <sup>s</sup>                 |
| Jhon smythe hs rent unpayde for ij yere com myhellmas ..... | x <sup>s</sup>                    |
| Beatrix thacker for hyr howse .....                         | liij <sup>s</sup>                 |

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Anno xxxv<sup>o</sup>

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Remayning in the hands of Thomas pavy ffor A gorgyt <sup>15</sup> ..... | ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |
| pleg <sup>r</sup> Ryc <sup>r</sup> Edwards & Robt curtyse               |                                   |

(Page 10.)

Certayn stuff remaynyng in corpus x<sup>l</sup> gyld howse delyu<sup>d</sup>ed belle candelier <sup>16</sup>

|  |  |
|--|--|
| ffirst A great erke <sup>17</sup>  |  |
| It An Aylstole <sup>18</sup>   |  |
| It A chopynge bloke  |  |
| It A payntyd clothe callyd A hullyng <sup>19</sup>   |  |
| It A bedstede  |  |
| It A putther <sup>20</sup> pott that was mother Adams with stoyles fforomes <sup>21</sup> &c |  |

(Page 11.)

A boyke mayd By Wyllm Smyth & Wyllm Bayt the xxxvj yere off the Ryng off Henry the viij

Rental

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Robt Astheton viij <sup>s</sup> out rent .....                   | viij <sup>s</sup> liij <sup>d</sup>               |
| mo <sup>o</sup> John phillip                                     |   |
| Hen manby .....  | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd <sup>d</sup>                  |
| Henry haylambe .....   | viij <sup>s</sup> jd <sup>d</sup>                 |
| The Same henry ffor the howse ou <sup>r</sup> the way .....      | vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                 |
| Xofer Stevyn.....  | ij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                 |
| Robt Ewyrd <sup>22</sup>   | x <sup>s</sup>                                    |
| viij <sup>s</sup> Thomas hubord.....                             | viij <sup>s</sup> <sup>23</sup> viij <sup>s</sup> |
| non sol  |   |
| vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> Wyllm Grang <sup>r</sup> ..... | vj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>                 |
| Rog <sup>r</sup> manaste   |   |
| debr Thomas Bayker .....   | v <sup>s</sup>                                    |

|  |                   |      |
|--|-------------------|------|
| Ryc Edwards.....                                     | vjs               | rd   |
| Ryc Egger.....                                       | iiijjs            |      |
| Thomas tyghe <sup>24</sup> .....                     | iiijjs            |      |
| mo <sup>o</sup> Wyllm Cave                           |                   |      |
| debr Beatrys thaker.....                             | iijs              |      |
| Itm Rec off Thomas Barryt .....                      |                   | vjd  |
| It off the wyff of Robt harwarde ffor the lyght..... |                   | iijs |
| Sm <sup>25</sup> .....                               | iiijjs vjs iiijjs |      |

## (Page 12.)

|  |        |     |
|--|--------|-----|
| Layd out By the bayliffe & the Aldrman <sup>26</sup> off corpus x <sup>t</sup> gylde An <sup>o</sup> xxxvj |        |     |
| first the out rents off corpus x <sup>t</sup> howse.....   | ijs    | ijd |
| It ffor ffor the ffrehold .. ..  |        | jd  |
| Itm ffor other outments .....  | ijs    |     |
| It ffor ij Aco <sup>r</sup> thakke .....   | ijs    |     |
| It mawng off the Same.....   |        | rd  |
| It ffor gatherng .....   |        | vjd |
| It ffor caryage .....  | ijs    |     |
| It ffor thakkyng off the Same thakke .....   | iiijjs | rd  |
| It mendyng the trinite gyldhowse ij peces woode .....  |        | vjd |
| It ffor the warkmanship .....  |        | rd  |
| It ffor mercyements.....   |        | ijd |
| Itm ffor A marke to marke the platte wythe .....   |        | ijd |
| Itm ffor hyngles to the buttredore <sup>27</sup> .. ..   |        | ijd |
| Itm ffor mapleton obbyt.....   | iiijjs | ixd |
| Itm ffor ij doss waxe <sup>28</sup> .....  | xvjs   | vjd |
| Alloc <sup>29</sup>  |        |     |

## (Page 13.)

|  |        |              |
|--|--------|--------------|
| non { Itm payd ffor the Subsedye money .....   | xjs    |              |
| Itm ffor ij locks.....   | vjs    |              |
| M <sup>d</sup> delyud to Ryc Smyth the v <sup>s</sup> crowne of the byschope off Romes coyne <sup>30</sup> |        |              |
| Itm ffor <sup>31</sup> ffeelyng and hegeyng off a lode thornes ffor wyll                                   | ijs    |              |
| Evryt yerde wyth stakes off both Syds the way .....  |        |              |
| Itm ffor caryng off the Same thornes.....  |        | vjd          |
| Itm ffor the thornes.....  |        | xiijs        |
| Itm to henry Barber ffor waxe makyng .....   | ijs    | ijd          |
| It payd ffor A Sheff Arowes <sup>32</sup> .....  | iiijjs |              |
| Itm payd to John Bucke ffor rydyng to london ffor the townes   |        | xiijs iiijjs |
| busynesse ..   |        |              |
| Allocat <sup>r</sup>   |        |              |

## (Page 14.)

Ano xxxvij

|   |                |         |
|---|----------------|---------|
| Reparacyones About the towne howse in the holdyng off Ryc Edwards             |                |         |
| first for tymber .....  | v <sup>s</sup> | rd      |
| Itm ffor borde for the dores .....  |                | rd      |
| It' the warkmanshype.....   | ijs            | iiijjs  |
| It' nayles .....  |                | rd      |
| It' ffor the howse in the holdyng off Robt Astheton                           |                |         |
| first ffor tymber .....   | iiijjs         | ijd     |
| It ffor nayles .....  |                | ijd     |
| It' ffor warkmanshipe .....   | iijs           |         |
| Itm ffor the howse <sup>33</sup> in the holdyng off X <sup>o</sup> fer Stevyn |                |         |
| ffor the warkmanship .....  | ijs            | ijd     |
| It' the tymbre .....  |                | xiiijjs |

## (Page 15.)

|                        |        |  |
|------------------------|--------|--|
| It An Acr thakke ..... | xijjs  |  |
| mawng .....            | rd     |  |
| byndyng.....           | iiijjs |  |

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Caryage .....   | x <sup>d</sup>                   |
| Itm to the Kyng ffor benyvolence money .....                  | v <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>  |
| It' to the maybones ffor the chyrohe warke .....              | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |
| It to wyllm Bacheler ffor takyng dawne stone .....            | x <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It' ffor caryng erthe and castyng up off y <sup>t</sup> ..... | ii <sup>j</sup> iij <sup>d</sup> |
| It to the brygg ffor the warkmanship & lyme to the Stone bryg | xx <sup>s</sup>                  |

(Page 16.)

An<sup>o</sup> xxxvi<sup>j</sup><sup>o</sup>

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| lent unto Thomas Ernold .....                                    | xij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup> |
| pleg' hen' flysher .....   |                                   |
| Itm payd to harward off langtoft ffor thakke by the hands of }   | iij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| John Smith .....   |                                   |
| Itm ffor caryng one day erthe and runell <sup>34</sup> .....     | xij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| Itm ffor iij loyd Runell .....                                   | v <sup>d</sup>                    |
| Itm ffor A loyd wyllowes for hegynge Aboute the yerd at the }    | xiiij <sup>d</sup>                |
| gyldhowse .....  |                                   |
| Itm ffor caryage .....   | ij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| Itm ffor hegynge the Same .....                                  | xij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| Reparacyones Aboute corpus x <sup>i</sup> howse .....            |                                   |
| ffirste Rygynge and thakyng .....                                | xij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| Itm to Wyllm Evyt ffor Servynge the warkman to Wylliam }         | xij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| iij dayes .....  |                                   |
| Itm to henry haylambe ffor wyrkeyng Aboute the erthe .....       | x <sup>d</sup>                    |
| Itm payd ffor the exchange of c'tayn putther <sup>35</sup> ..... | v <sup>d</sup>                    |

(Page 17.)

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Itm to X <sup>o</sup> fer Stevyn ffor thakyng and rygynge <sup>36</sup> the howse } | ij <sup>s</sup>                     |
| on bothesyds the way .....  |                                     |
| Itm to X <sup>o</sup> fer Stevyn ffor A Sydpece A studd & nayles ffor }             | xij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| hys dwellyng howse .....  |                                     |
| Itm maypulton obyt .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |
| It Guthlayks <sup>37</sup> and fayredayes .....                                     | ij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup>      |
| It on corpus xpi evyn .....   | iiij <sup>s</sup>                   |
| It ij dossyn waxe .....   | xv <sup>s</sup>                     |
| Itm payd to the subseyde .....  | xiiij <sup>s</sup>                  |
| Itm to the taxe money .....   | ix <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>    |
| Itm the Kynge rent off c'tayn howses .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>   |

(Page 19.)

An<sup>o</sup> xxxvi<sup>j</sup><sup>o</sup>

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Itm Receyved off Thomas pavy ffor A bracc <sup>38</sup> pott ..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| Itm ffor the old Bryg .....  | xvj <sup>d</sup>                                     |
| Itm ffor ij lattyn bayseues <sup>39</sup> .....                    | xviij <sup>d</sup>                                   |
| Itm ffor A brasse pott .....                                       | iiij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| Itm ffor ij legaces .....  | xvj <sup>d</sup>                                     |
| It Rec off Robt Warde .....  | xx <sup>d</sup>                                      |
| Sm rec .....   | x <sup>li</sup> xiiij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup> 40 |
| Sm deduction' .....  | vij <sup>li</sup> x <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>    |
| Sic remanet .....  | iiij <sup>li</sup> iiij <sup>s</sup> x <sup>d</sup>  |

(Page 20.)

An<sup>o</sup> p<sup>mo</sup> Edwardi Sexti<sup>41</sup>

|  |  |
|--|--|
| In p <sup>mis</sup> mychelmes rent .....                       | iiij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>     |
| Mabletons obit .....   | iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>    |
| To the Subseyde <sup>42</sup> .....                            | x <sup>s</sup>                         |
| to taxe .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup>                      |
| waxe xij <sup>li</sup> .....                                   | vij <sup>s</sup> v <sup>d</sup>        |
| Guthlaks obit and fayredayes .....                             | iiij <sup>s</sup> j <sup>d</sup>       |
| Itm on corpus x <sup>i</sup> evyn the obyt <sup>43</sup> ..... | iiij <sup>s</sup>                      |
| Sm .....   | xxxiiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |
| Sic rem .....  | xxxj <sup>s</sup> ix <sup>d</sup> 44   |

(Page 21.)

Rentts Ro<sup>d</sup> by the hands of Jhon bayte & Gylbarde Warde then beyng occuparsAn<sup>o</sup> secundo sexto <sup>45</sup>

|   |  |
|---|--|
| In p <sup>m</sup> s Robrt ayston .....  | viijs                                  |
| It' Jhon phyllypp .....   | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd                    |
| It' thoms tyghe for saynt Jams ac <sup>r</sup> .....                              | iiij <sup>s</sup>                      |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of xpoffer steven for rent .....                              | x <sup>s</sup>                         |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Jhon gambull for the parcyall <sup>46</sup> of hs det..... | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' herry Allam for rent .....  | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| and for the howse ou <sup>r</sup> the wey .....                                   | ijs viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Wyllm grang <sup>r</sup> .....                             | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Jhon horsley for rent.....                                 | x <sup>s</sup>                         |
| It' John Edwards for rentt .....  | vjs v <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It' Rychard Edgare for rentt.....   | iiij <sup>s</sup>                      |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Robrt Euyd for rent y <sup>t</sup> was behynde .....       | x <sup>s</sup>                         |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Jhon gambull .....   | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Robrt thak <sup>r</sup> .....                              | vjs                                    |
| It' Rog <sup>r</sup> manestey .....   | v <sup>s</sup>                         |
| Sm .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup> xvjs                 |
|   | iiij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>    |
|   | iiij <sup>s</sup> vjs iij <sup>d</sup> |

(Page 22.)

layd out by the hands of Jhon Bayte &amp; gylbarde Warde anno Edwardi secundo sexto

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| It' payd to Jhon Buke at hys gate to london <sup>48</sup> ..... | xx <sup>s</sup>                    |
| It' owt rentts payde to the ballie.....                         | iiij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup> |
| It' payde for a levye .....                                     | vjd                                |
| It' for nays .....  | j <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It' for splynttyng att Jhon harby hys howse .....               | j <sup>d</sup>                     |
| Sm .....  | xxiiij <sup>s</sup> xjd            |

(Page 23.)

Rentts Ro<sup>d</sup> by me gylbarde Warde Jhon Bayte Thoms a tyghe Thoms paye

|  |  |
|--|--|
| In p <sup>m</sup> s Recevyd of Wyllm sabye for ye last yers rent } vjs payd for  |  |
| & thys.....  | thys yere iij <sup>s</sup>                         |
| & for a moter stoke <sup>1</sup> .....   | iiij <sup>d</sup>                                  |
| It' Rec <sup>d</sup> of Jhon horsley for rent .....                              | x <sup>s</sup>                                     |
| It' of Jhon harbye for rent .....  | iiij <sup>s</sup> x <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Jhon phyllyppe for rent .....                             | ix <sup>s</sup> xjd                                |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Thoms tyhe for saynt Jams ac <sup>r</sup> .....           | iiij <sup>s</sup>                                  |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Rycharde Edgare .....                                     | iiij <sup>s</sup>                                  |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of xpoffer steven for rent <sup>49</sup> .....               | x <sup>s</sup>                                     |
| It' Ro <sup>d</sup> of Robrt Ayston for a Ernyst <sup>50</sup> of hs howse ..... | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                              |
| It' of Wyllm grang <sup>r</sup> for rent .....                                   | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>                              |
| It' of Rog <sup>r</sup> manestey for rent .....                                  | v <sup>s</sup>                                     |
| Sm.....  | iiij <sup>s</sup> vjs v <sup>d</sup> <sup>51</sup> |

(Page 25.)

Expenss layde owt by Jhon Bayt & gylbard Warde for thys yere foloyng Edward<sup>o</sup> sext<sup>o</sup> tercio

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| It' pay <sup>d</sup> to ye ballie of y <sup>e</sup> towne for cheff rent ..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> iij <sup>d</sup>  |
| It' payde for fynyng at Uffyngton cowrt .....                                  | j <sup>d</sup>                      |
| It' for makynge dealls at Dobyne fee .....                                     | j <sup>d</sup>                      |
| It' payd to Jhon harbye for a lood of thake .....                              | viij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It' payde for makynge the deale longynge to horsleys howsae .....              | xjd                                 |
| It' for ij ac <sup>r</sup> of cramore <sup>1</sup> .....                       | iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup> |
| It' for gaterynge of the same .....  | vjd                                 |

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| It' payde to Rycharde barton for thakyng at Jhon harbys }<br>howse.....  | viiij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' to Jhon harby for suruynge <sup>52</sup> ye same thak <sup>r</sup> .....   | iiij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It' Allowyde to xpofter steven for on spare <sup>53</sup> & for naylls .....   | viiij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' payde yn to the hands of Wyllm mannyge in Eyst <sup>r</sup> }<br>hallydayes .....                                      | vjs viij <sup>d</sup>               |
| It' payd for a survys booke at Staunfforde .....   | iiij <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup> |
| It' for mowynge ye seyde ij ac' of thake .....   | xij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It' for carryage y <sup>e</sup> same .....   | xx <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It' iiij loode of Earthe & carryage .....  | viiij <sup>d</sup>                  |
| It' for ij bords for Wyndons at sabye hs housse & legys unto }<br>the same and a C <sup>54</sup> nayls & workmanchypp..... | xxi <sup>d</sup>                    |
| Sm .....   | xxvijs viij <sup>d</sup>            |

(Page 27.)<sup>55</sup>

Itm towe messuage wyth ther aporynans the quene<sup>56</sup> lying  
on y<sup>e</sup> West M<sup>r</sup> towe lying on ye est

Itm one messuage lyinge in ffrongnoll<sup>57</sup> by esttemacyon  
iij accars

Swell<sup>58</sup> Itm towe di' <sup>59</sup> accars one in Cerke<sup>60</sup> ffelde

A buttge on brodgat on y<sup>e</sup> est  
one other accar lyng ni unto Syston Well  
& one di' accar lyng in y<sup>e</sup> Same ffelde

Annabyll<sup>61</sup>

Also tow accars di' lyng in lenche ffelde

ffordes<sup>62</sup> londe

Also v accars of londe lyng Wyth in y<sup>e</sup> ffeldes of Depynge

Also one accar di' of londe one accar di' off medow

Also di' accars in cherche ffelde

Also di' accar in y<sup>e</sup> ffeldes off depynge .....

ijs vjd

Also one messuage wyth iij accars di' off londe

gallo . . .<sup>63</sup>

Also towe halvakrs

one other halff accar in lencoffell<sup>61</sup>

v accars off londe in depyng gatt ffelde<sup>62</sup>

(Page 30.)

the xxxiiij<sup>d</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> reynge of owr sou'aynt Kyng herre viij

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| M <sup>d</sup> payd for stone by the hands of Jhon a tye to mast <sup>r</sup> }<br>holands offyo's ..... | xxijs vjd |
|--|-----------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| It' payd to the vycar to by hym a surpplis ..... | viijs |
|--|-------|

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| It' cheff rent payd to the balye..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> jd q |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|

|  |    |
|--|----|
| It' to mast <sup>r</sup> holond balye for cheff rent ..... | jd |
|--|----|

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| It' for the yere daye of robt mappulttun ..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> ix <sup>d</sup> |
|--|-----------------------------------|

Expences the xxx iiij<sup>d</sup> yere of owre sou'aynt lorde Kyng henry the  
viiij<sup>th</sup> by the hands of Jhon smythe & gylbarde Warde then beyng  
occupyars for the gylde

|   |      |
|---|------|
| In primis payd by the hands of Jhon tyghe for a crane that }<br>mast <sup>r</sup> hall of gretforyth <sup>63</sup> hade ..... | iijs |
|---|------|

|                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| It payd to the balye cheffe rent..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> ijd q |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|

|  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| It for mappultuns obytt Keppynge ..... | iiij <sup>s</sup> ix <sup>d</sup> |
|--|-----------------------------------|

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| It payd for fyhsse that Jhon Dave had be fore mydlent a pyrke }<br>a tenche and half styk of Knobards <sup>64</sup> ..... | vjs iiij <sup>d</sup> |
|---|-----------------------|

Sm .....xix<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> ob

(Page 31 has 4 lines in faint ink, but all smeared intentionally so as to be illegible.)



(Page 32.)

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| It <sup>65</sup> p <sup>d</sup> for cheffe Rent of a hows that was Mapulttunes .....   | ij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It p <sup>d</sup> for cheff Rent of fre land of Corpus crysty Gylde .....  | ij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>    |
| It' cheff rentt off a howse & londe of saynt Jams gylde .....  | xxij <sup>d</sup> q                |
| It' payd to Wyllm Webst <sup>r</sup> for C <sup>44</sup> xxijli of Waxe to the valye }<br>of xl <sup>s</sup> the C <sup>44</sup> & the ressydew aft <sup>r</sup> the same rate the hoole } | xlvijs ix <sup>d</sup> ob          |
| M <sup>d</sup> Expences att the awdytt in Wyllde fowle .....   | xij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| It' payd to the good Wyffe powell for ij capons .....  | x <sup>d</sup>                     |
| It' the buttler .....  | ij <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It' payd to the purreseunauntt in y <sup>e</sup> m <sup>r</sup> kyttsted <sup>66</sup> .....   | xx <sup>d</sup>                    |
| It' expences at Staunfforde upon saynt Jams daye to y <sup>e</sup> Keper }<br>of y <sup>e</sup> game .....   | iijs iiij <sup>d</sup>             |
| It' payd to gylbarde Warde for Wryttyng .....  | vij <sup>d</sup>                   |
| Sm .....   | vij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> |

(1) These words are quite distinct. But I do not find them, or anything like them, in any dictionary. (2) This looks as if there were a Gild of Our Lady. The initial letter is, however, distinctly *y*, and quite unlike the *g* when the word Gild is used. (3) Erased. (4) An abbreviation that seems to mean the same as in previous line. (5) The *g* in this word is written like a long *z*, reminding one of the pronunciation of several Scotch words where the letter occurs, as Menzies, Dalziel, capercailzie, &c. (6) This expression is difficult: where it occurs it is mostly an insertion at a later time, and seems to mean that the occupation of the land or house was made over to a new tenant. (7) The initial X is the Greek chi (*i.e.*, CH); the name is Christopher. In some later entries Christi is abbreviated into xpi; where the *p* is the Greek rho (*i.e.*, R). (8) Not, most likely, the house on the other side of the street, but a dwelling built over a gateway that crossed the road. Ou<sup>r</sup> means over. (9) Bettris, or Beatrice, Thacker. (10) Saint James' acre. (11) Out-rents are payments in the nature of quit rents or chief rents to the lord of the manor. (12) Amerciaments are arbitrary money payments, at the discretion of the court of the lord of the manor, for offences not punishable by a certain fine. (13) Bailiff. (14) Elizabeth Beare's holding was let to Christopher Steven at an improved rental, and he was to bear all charges. (15) Pavy seems to have borrowed 2s. 8d., and to have deposited a gorget (a woman's neck dress) as a pledge; Richard

Edwards and Robert Curtis being also securities for the repayment of the loan. (16) Had a bell and candlestick or chandelier been delivered up before this inventory was made? Or was Isabel Chandler the name of the woman in charge of the Gild-house, who was responsible for the safe custody of the "stuff"? (17) An ark, chest, or coffer. (18) What was this? Was it a form for convivial meetings, an ale-stool? (19) Possibly a houseling cloth. (20) Pewter. (21) Stools, forms, &c. (22) Everyd, or Everett. (23) Erased. (24) John Smyth v<sup>r</sup>, erased. (25) Two erasures, Rec. xlviii<sup>a</sup> xj<sup>d</sup>, and xlviii<sup>a</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>. This page, it is to be noted, is a table of the rental, not of the receipts. Hence the total does not represent the whole amount set down. The sums to the left, or to the right of the rent due, may represent sums paid on account: in the case of William Granger, he seems to have been credited with payment in error, as "non sol." is marked against his name. The total was thus altered as new payments came in. (26) These three words erased. It is interesting to see that the Gild had an officer called an Alderman. (27) The Gild-house must have been adapted for festive occasions if it contained a buttery. (28) Three dozen wax. This would be at the rate of 5s. 6d. a dozen. Next year the rate is 7s. 6d. a dozen. This is, most likely, a dozen pounds. For a later entry gives the price of wax at 6½d. a pound. (29) Allocatur: the balance sheet is allowed, and the accounts passed. (30) These two lines are so much overlined that it was very hard to make them out. I am however satisfied I have given the correct reading. Was Papal coinage ever allowed to circulate in this country? (31) The words "A lode thornes" were first written here, but were afterwards scratched over. (32) A sheaf of arrows. (33) "Off," erased. (34) Bailey gives "Runnel, Pollard Wood, so called from running up apace." (35) Certain pewter. (36) Thatching and ridging. (37) This is hardly likely to have anything to do with the Crowland saint. It has been seen above (page 3)

that the cost of Thomas Goodlake's obit was 3s. 1d., the same as here given. Fairday may have been another benefactor whose obit was solemnised at the same time. (38) Bracc, or bract: qy. brass? (39) Basins of latten. (40) The items of the receipts for this year do not appear in the book. So there is no explanation of the amount received, which is more than three times as large as that received two years back. £10 14s. 1d. represents a large income for a village gild. The gross value of the vicarage of Maxey, just across the river, at the same date was £10 10s. 7d. I have added up the several items of expenditure, as given here (pp. 14-19), and they amount exactly to the £7 10s. 3d. deducted from the receipts. The receipts may however have included a balance in hand. (41) "P<sup>r</sup>mo" written first, in error. (42) "To the tax" first written here, but afterwards put to separate entry. (43) This obit on the eve of Corpus Christi was probably for deceased members of the gild; "the brether and system" of the first year's accounts. (44) It does not appear how this balance arises. (45) "P<sup>r</sup>mo" was first written, and then "secundo" substituted. "Sexto" is a mere error, the scribe not understanding Latin. The full date would be "Anno Edvardi Sexti Secundo." (46) Parcel, part. (47) This total corresponds with the items if the second entry of 6s. 8d. is an erroneous repetition of a similar entry above. A mark to the left of the second entry, and a partial erasure of the amount, make this probable. The amounts given beneath this total are unexplained. (48) Upon his going. (49) All scratched out. (50) Earnest, deposit or part payment. (51) This does not agree with the items. (52) Serving. (53) One spar. (54) This mark is not a C (though so printed here), but a symbol consisting of a circle with a looped line through it. It means a hundredweight. (55) This leaf (it is a single leaf with nothing written on the second page) has been inserted in the account book. (56) Perhaps the green. (57) Frognall. (58) These may be names of the donors of the property. (59)

Half. (60) Church. (61) Lench Field, as above. (62) Deeping Gate is in Northamptonshire, in the parish of Maxey. (63) Gretford, about 6 miles from Deeping S. James. Why should the gild pay for a crane (presumably a heron) for Mr. Hall? (64) A very curious entry. In no other instance are provisions supplied to a single person. Here John Davy has fish for some part of Lent given him: a pike, a tench, half a stick of knobards, whatever they may be. (65) Two or three letters in very faint ink, that look like "no. p." precede this entry. (66) The pursuivant in the market-stead.

The following are the words or expressions of which explanation is desired:—yeld, tond, queyworde, aylstole, hulling, moter stoke, cramore, a stick of knobards. Ed.

841.—Low-Fen Bill Hall (828).—This *nom de plume* does not appear in any of Hall's publications till 1816. By Low-Fen, a name which does not occur in any other work, Hall means the Low Grounds at Kyme. In 1816 he issued a single sheet of 16 pages with this title:—

REFLECTIONS  
UPON  
*Times, and Times, and Times!*  
*or, a more than*  
SIXTY YEARS' TOUR,  
OF THE  
MIND:  
DEDICATED TO POSTERITY,  
BY  
*Low-Fen Bill Hall,*  
ALIAS  
Will Wilbeso.

Philosophy, investigator,  
Thou seems to tell us what's the matter;  
But worst of 't is, thou's found such laws,  
As needs no aid of a FIRST CAUSE!!!

*"Oh that they were wise, that they understood this."* Deut. 32, 29.

*"The thing that is past is site of remembrance;*

*The more knowledge a man hath the more is his care."*

*Solomon's preaching.*

Eccl. 1st. old Translation.

Printed by W. G. Whittingham, for William Hall, at the Antiquarian Library, Lynn, 1816.

A very feeble set of 17 lines dedicates this effusion to The Saviour: it is dated Midharvest, 1816. The harvest that year was late, and there was heavy rain. On Monday, 7 Oct., the

writer began to think it had exceeded anything in his memory. He gives a curious example of the fluctuation of the price of wheat, between the first and eighth of October. "A man showed a sample of wheat on the 1st.; what he asked I cannot tell, but from its handing damp he was replied 'I dare not give you 30 for it;' on the 8th. the identical sample was asked 45s. per Combe for and marked off without hesitation; the man was even surprized, and said he lost money for want of asking." This price would equal 90s. a quarter.

The state of the weather and the price of corn suggest to him some recollections.

Tradition says previous to the year 1750 had been a long succession of dry and favourable seasons, and business kept upon a steady course, insomuch that I perfectly remember my father giving 16s. per quarter for exceeding good high country barley, and his neighbour told him he had given "a longish price." In 1755 to the best of my recollection, many very serious occurrences took place, insomuch that I have given from 8*l.* to 3*l.* for 21 combe of oats, and once 28s. for a quarter of Barley-bigg to sow, and thought it enormous price; since then I have bought very fair barley of Mr. W. Carter of Terrington, at 1*s.* 6*d.* per bushel, take as many or few as I chose; he used to treat me with my dinner and thank me for my custom: in the year 1795 I saw Barley of no better quality sold 40s. per coomb.

The fluctuations since that time, he says, have been beyond belief. There is a misprint in the price of oats: he meant to say (probably) "from 8*l.* to 9*l.* for 21 combe"; this would be about 16s. to 17s. a quarter. The expression "Barley-bigg" is referred to in Art. 599, and a question was asked as to its precise meaning: but no reply has ever been received.

The summer of 1756 was a very wet one. Thunder showers commenced as early as March. All Holland Fen was under water, "the high part of Amber Hill and tops of the banks excepted"; and it was the same all through the Fens to Lincoln: the hay was so mouldy that the stock could not work into it: "neither when it was cut up in fleaks could they chew it till the mould was beat off, and many dyed the best that could be done." Frequent water-spouts marked wet seasons in the Fens: Hall cannot call to mind any accident resulting from them, though he had seen as many as six at one time. He gives a vivid description of one.

When I lived at Whaplode Drove, my wife and I stood leaning upon our outward gate, looking southward; when a cloud neither enormous nor inconsiderable, passed about parallel to the Dog and doublet from us, but not the least appearance of rain from it; when suddenly a spout hung from it in quite a slanting position and in a very few seconds of time, another sprung from (I cannot think any where else but) Whittlesea Mere, in a slanting position also and met it, we could immediately see the water flow into the cloud, with the swiftest rapidity, and as it approached to a perpendicular the more enormous it became; on coming to a perpendicular, it made a stand for a considerable time, and swelled to a most prodigious degree, when suddenly it hoisted up a regular sized cloud; and we could see the light under it for a quarter of a minute's time; the upper-cloud separated from it, only holding by the original spout, and seemed to drag it into its proper region; then dwindled and left its hold. So much for attraction.

The Dog and Doublet, (properly, the Dog in a Doublet,) is a well-known inn on the North Bank, between Thorney and Whittlesey. This single sheet of 16 pp. was either issued at two different times, or the second half was printed long after the first half had been in type. An inserted slip after page 8 speaks of some delay. In this same slip is an erratum (in verses): *Chilli* had been put for *Chili*, in p. 13. Now this error occurs in a later pamphlet dated 20 May, 1818. So that possibly the "Reflections" did not see the light till two years after date.

Resuming his account of harvest weather, he notes that in 1774 there were again heavy rains in harvest, beginning on 1 Sep. During the month there was not fully a fine day, nor a single harvest waggon run; "tens of thousands of shoks were fast matted together and literally green." The next month was a perfect contrast. The worst season he recollected was in 1799. "I never witnessed a season that caused a more general gloom on the bulk of mankind." Bread had been very dear for many years past; this season was cool and wet; "much corn showed no change to ripen, but kept on the constant grow and swell, till it actually grew in the ear." In many parts of the Fens men reaped in boots, (no doubt the large Fen boots,) some knelt in boats, to fish the corn out of the water and carry it to dry land to spread it out; and he was told that "many of the undertakers had one half for getting the other." The rest of the pamphlet is taken up with an account of a visit

to Sussex. The customary slip after p. 16 says that another "number" is to follow; and that the author must ask for one shilling and sixpence for the first three numbers; "nevertheless he engages for a fullfilment of the first proposal of 200 pages and a Phiz for Six and Six Pence." But the Phiz (that is, a portrait of himself) would not come till the end.

In Mr. Colman's copy these 16 pp. of "Reflections," dated 1816, together with the next piece shortly to be described ("Medley Pye") are bound with 4 pages of thick blue paper at the beginning and end. The 4 pages at the beginning are dated 1 June 1818; those at the end are undated, but they have an explanation of an expression on the first of the 8 blue pages. We have first a Prospectus, 1 page; "A fact or two revived," 2 pp.; and then a Bardian Advertisement, 1 page, all in rhyme. He tells us after his mother died he had a step-mother who was niggard, crabbed, and cross; that his wife's name was Suke; that his father's dog's name was "tyger," which he makes the rhyme with "vigour"; that he once had rheumatism in his left arm so severely that it throbbed violently, and

without stroke,

To touch it—absolutely broke!!

and that this accident prevented him engaging in his trade of farrier and cowleech any more. The Bardian Advertisement forms an acrostic, the initials of the lines forming the words "William Hall Fen Historian."

Following the "Reflections" are 58 pages of which the title is here given. Page 1 is the title; pp. 2-5 are not numbered, all are in rhyme, the subjects being "A very Profound Reason given," a catalogue of Hall's store, a sketch of the contents. At the foot of page 5 is this:—

LYNN; Printed for the Author by W. Whittingham, and sold only by the Editor with Trade Allowance for twelve copies. Price six and sixpence.

The sixth page is numbered 2, and then the paging goes on regularly to 48; the last four pages, like the first five, having no numbers.

This is the title :—

*Lynn, Ferry Street, 1818.*

A Lincolnshire rais'd  
*MEDLEY PYE.*

An ORIGINAL miscellany,  
Not meant as *canting, puzzling mystery!*  
But for a gen'ral TRUE FEN HISTORY;  
Such as designed some time ago,  
By him *y'clept Will Wilbeso*;  
Here's number one for publication,  
If meet the public's approbation;  
So as two hundred will *go down*;  
"Low Fen Bill Hall" the home bred clown,  
With divine leave, his word engages,  
To send about 200 pages;  
Collected by his gleanings pains,  
Mix'd with the fruit of his own brains,  
To give the *pye* a relish sweet,  
And cause an wholesome *mental treat*;  
His attitude placed in view,  
Such! Rubens, Guido; never drew.

CONDITIONS.

Not a copy sold but to subscribers,

Trade allowance with 12 copies.

Price for the whole work six shillings and sixpence.

For convenience of clearing the press &c. the proprietor solicits the  
favour of 1s. 6d. for the first number, the rest to be delivered at 1s. each;  
the work expresses the rest.

Kind friends

You who do wish to know,  
The bottom of *Will Wilbeso*,  
Now!! is the time yourselves to treat,  
For David's gage is near complete.

May 20th.

The last line means that he had nearly reached the three score years and ten of the Psalmist. The "Prospectus" already mentioned, is dated 1 June, 1818, and that day was his seventieth birthday. An expression in his Address seems to indicate that Hall's first attempt (that described in our last part) did not hit the taste of the public :—

Of the Local sketch,  
(Sent some time since—but did not fetch),  
Has took in hand once more to try  
His talent for posterity.

The first 17 lines of this Address form the acrostic William Hall Author. There is something pathetic as well as comic in his description of his own youth, as regarded his opportunities of acquiring education.

Critics, if you've a mind to throw,  
Your shafts at old Will Wilbeso;  
First send a child to Kyme Low Fen,  
Let him stop twenty years and then  
Leave him to mere dictates of nature,  
Without a mental educator.



Only just leave his battledoor,  
 Then go to school six months, no more.  
 Let him be over head in cumber,  
 Perplexities too much to number,  
 Then let him take an authors part,  
 Try his best typographic art,  
 Then! if you find that he out vies me,  
 I'll give him leave to criticise me.

Taking a hint from the expression "The Water Poet," applied to John Taylor, Hall calls himself "The Aquatic Bard." He again complains that his first effort was not duly appreciated: "half the folks seem'd really puzzled." An acrostic, dated 2 March, 1818, gives the words William Hall's Petition To John Rennie, Esquire. In it he solicits the great engineer's support and encouragement.

Resolved had I but pecune,  
 Enough to keep my harp in tune;  
 Not to deprive posterity,  
 Narrate what none can tell but me;  
 If you will aid me in the task,  
 Enough! no other loan I ask.

"Pecune" is good. His petition met with a kind response, for which he duly thanked the "first-rate Engineer." Hall represents him as saying, among other things,

O! dear I cannot be offended,  
 With any thing which *you're* intended.

We are not, however, entitled to assume from this that Rennie's reply was written in the same metrical form as the petition.

In 1763, from Michaelmas till after Christmas, there were severe floods over the Lincolnshire Fens. There was great fear that Wildmore Bank would give way. One would have thought this would have been a fine time for the geese; but they got "floated away" miles from their home; and some Brothertoft geese were found by their owners on the high land at Ewerby Thorp, a distance of probably ten miles.

Of many of Hall's stories we can do no more than give a very slight account. Langley Edwards, engineer to the new river Witham, is credited with being a very good hand at a bottle. Ashton Goodyear, who died at Lynn in the first week of 1818, at whose funeral Hall and his wife were chief mourners, and who was said to have been 108 years old, had seen some strange

vicissitudes. At one time he was steward of a large estate, and drove a carriage and pair: the bursting of some banks ruined the estate he managed and deprived him of his office: he took another large farm, but utterly failed, and was at last reduced to letting his wife manage a little shop at West Walton, while he employed himself in cobbling. After a time things began to look better, and he was able to take a larger shop at Tilney, where he did well. In Hall's youth there used to be a Queen of the May and great festivities on May Day at South Kyme. Leeches were very plentiful. Thirty or more could be found in a coot's nest; and if a man put his hand in the water for a little time it was nearly sure to be seized by one. George Arnold, recently buried at Lynn, late in the Iron Yard, is referred to as "An Honest man as ever was." A highly complimentary account is given in an acrostic (William Hall's Idea Of Mr. Dan Coates At Tilney) of a man of whom it is said that "young, old, rich, poor and all sorts lov'd him."

Some lines which the author calls a "Prologue to a Tour round the Levels" contains allusions which are probably now beyond hope of explanation.

From Lynn I take my way to Brand  
Then bearings keep to my right hand,  
To Burwell where I mean to treat,  
Its fame for produce of seed Wheat:  
Step over Cam at Clay-Hithe Penn,  
By Cottenham to Stanton Fen,  
There a Catastrophe explore,  
Such as I never saw before!!  
Cross Ouse at Ives, for Ramsey take;  
At Stilton view great Whittles' Lake;  
Then make a halt at Peterborough,  
Rehearse some deep-felt tales of sorrow;  
At Walton find a *Christian* man,  
Yes, match his character who can;  
To Deeping, Bourn, Sleaford and Lincoln;  
Then stop and bait some things to think on,  
When Witham cross to th' Lindsay side,  
Then tell of things that did betide,  
In Cromwell's day;—Monks in their glories,  
At Tattershall some "castle stories;"  
And Consby show as ill a face on;  
As ere were caus'd by Dr. Mason.  
At Reavesby I intend to say  
Found Neb'chadnezzar's mania!!

I pass Keal Hill at Wainfleet stay;  
 And deem it my *No plus ultra*.  
 Here halt again and go to sleep,  
 Then ruminate on East Fen Deep,  
 Near which I've seen a *mile long fire*;  
 Stream Boston steeple high or higher.  
 Poor fidler Pinchbeck's case, don't scoff;  
 There, both his feet were frozen off.  
 I then coast wise my route pursue,  
 To Fosdike wash where at one view,  
 A Thousand drowned sheep were seen,  
 With scarce a sheep's length space between.  
 Keep coast wise on till home again,  
 Next number mean these to explain.

In describing the inundation caused by the breach at Torksey Lock (date not given), Hall says that a west wind carried the floods so as to burst through Swineshead Turnpike Road, which they "gull'd" to the depth of nearly twelve feet. He himself tried to plumb the depth with his 9-foot "poy," but could not touch the bottom. He had also been in a boat "close to where Golden Cross does stand," as well as in Donington Market Place. A servant of Mr. Gee's, of Swineshead, who had been to Park House to secure the stock there, lost his life in the water, his horse and himself being driven by a boisterous wind into the floods. The water wholly covered all the land "from Bridge End Barr to Furthen Lane." Furthen Lane was the old name for West Street, Boston: and if Bridge End Barr means the place known as Bridge End in Horbling Fen, the distance would be not less than 11 miles.

A proverb that is quoted as current among the men of Heckington has, no doubt, some meaning. But it is not very apparent. It is given here, with Hall's spelling, in the hope that some correspondent may be able to explain it.

A hammer an a Betle  
 Spelders arr Church Steple.

Ice sledges were in use in frosty weather. Cows took to swimming readily when fodder was scarce, and there seemed hope of better pasture on the other side of a river or drain. "I have also known the whole parish of Doodike not two houses communicable for whole winters round and sometimes scarcely in summer." The title "A Medley Pye" is taken from a dish made for feasts by the "Dames" in Lincolnshire.

All meats in season were put into it, and it was "raised" to a great height. Hall knew of an instance where one, at a Kyme Feast, had been sufficient for dinner for fifty persons. Men of Kyme were in the neighbourhood known as "Fen-Coots"; those of Billingham as "Billinghay Bogtrotters." Some of Hall's readers wrote to him to protest against his discursive style. But he rather prided himself upon it.

A part of my readers, so lib'ral and free,  
 They hesitate not to say this about me,  
 That they think I know "something" about this and that,  
 But so shifting and odd, that they cannot tell what  
 To compare me unto—unless "Tristram Shandy,"  
 When a point coming to! so sure as can be,  
 Jumps right out o' th' way; upon some other ground,  
 And there makes so short stay, that he scarce can be found:  
 'Fore he's off somewhere else, and so on, and so on;  
 That 'tis hard to say *SAFELY*, the ground I shall go on;  
 Such are the effects of my style Wilbeson.

Some verses at the end refer to the Boston election in 1818. There are other acrostics besides those named above. The last page of all, on the cover, is an attempt at putting his thoughts into Fen language. This however consists merely in spelling the words according to the local pronunciation.

Will some Lynn correspondent tell us when William Hall died? Is there any monumental inscription to his memory? He appears to have been a Nonconformist. Did he publish anything more than is indicated in this and in the previous article?

Mr. Thomas Southwell, who first called the Editor's attention to "The Fen Parson" and to "Low-Fen Bill Hall," supplies some explanations of the difficult words and expressions that occur on p. 284.

3. "Coots clapper-claw lying flat on their backs." This evidently refers to the attitude assumed by wounded or hard pressed Coots, which, as I have been told, (although I never witnessed the act,) throw themselves on their backs and defend themselves with their feet.

4. "Standing upright to row." The Fen-man propels his boat standing upright in the *stern*; a very difficult operation to those not accustomed to it.

5. "Crowning of Jacks." This was long a puzzle to me; and even my friend the late Mr. Cordeaux could not explain the operation. The following extract from Pennant's *British Zoology*, 8vo. Edit. 1769, Vol. iii., p. 272, will I think throw light upon it:—

In the shallow waters of the Lincolnshire Fens they [pike] are frequently taken in a manner peculiar to that County. . . . The fisherman makes use of what is called a crown-net, which is no more than a hemispherical basket, open at top and bottom. He stands at one end of the little fen-boats, and frequently puts his basket down to the bottom of the water, then poking a stick into it discovers whether he has any booty by the striking of the fish; and vast numbers of pike are taken in this manner.

The netting ruff and reeve speaks for itself; it was done both by snares and clap-nets.

7. "Stretched out in a boat with a shade to deceive." This refers to making an artificial cover in the fore part of the boat of sedge and weeds to shelter the gunner from the view of the fowl he wishes to approach.

8. Stake-nets are still used for the capture of wild birds on the shore.

12. The rudd is a fish very common in the large fen-drains, and the writer probably refers to the flocking together of the fish at the spawning time.

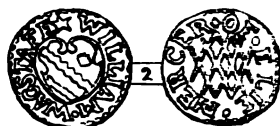
13. "Venom'd by rolling in slike." In the Commission of Sewers, 1616-17, "slike" is more than once referred to as a stoppage of the water, probably stagnant water or mud.

14. "Looking hingles, and sprinks, . . . . hop nets, and teanings." This appears to refer to the occupation of watching his various forms of net; "hingles and sprinks" are beyond me; "hop-nets" may be hoop-nets; "teanings" I give up; but a trammel net consists of two nets, one with large meshes quite loose, in front of another with smaller meshes stretched tight, so that the fish or birds passing through the first net are stopped by the second, and so become entangled. Such nets are stretched under water across a drain, and the fish driven towards and into them. The stake-nets used on the tidal sands of the Wash for the entanglement of wild-fowl are thus constructed.





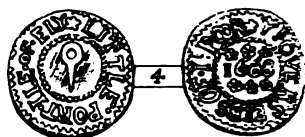
*Cambridge*



*Ely*



*Doddington*



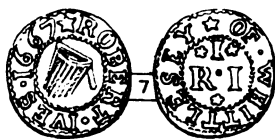
*Littleport.*



*Chatteris*



*March*



*Whittlesey*



*Wisbech.*



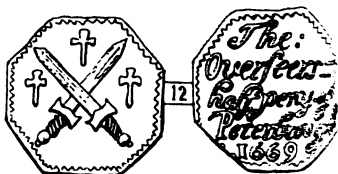
*St Ives*



*Cottenham*



*St Neots*



*Peterborough*

**342.—Fenland Tokens (821).**—Few remarks are necessary as a prelude to the description of Tokens figured in Plate II., given herewith. But it may be anticipated that there are readers of *Fenland Notes and Queries* who will add some notes of interest respecting tokens other than those here mentioned. We may not learn much as to *dates* on the coins, but it would be interesting to see how some of the 17th century people spelt the names of places. For instance, we have long wished to know when Holbech was corrupted into Holbeach; no doubt Court-rolls or local registers would tell us, but Tokens may also tell the tale. It was *Holbechs* in the 14th century and down to the time Dugdale wrote.\* What do the Tokens say? However there could not have been the same variation as on the Wisbech tokens which displayed an amusing orthography—as, Wisbich, Wisbitch, Wisbidg, Wisbeche, but never Wisbeach.

Peterborough came in, somehow, for ten variations—whether they preserved the *idem sonans* it is impossible to say—but the token inscribed PEETERBOVBROWGH was perhaps the oddest of all.

## PLATE II.

1. *Cambridge, ½d.*  
O. WILLIAM. SMITH. The Leathersellers' Arms.  
R. IN CAMBRIDGE, 1670. His. Half. Penny. W.E.S.
2. *Ely, ½d.*  
O. WILLIAM. WAGSTAFF. Arms of Wagstaff family in a heart-shaped shield; two bends raguly, in chief an escallop shell.  
R. MERCER OF ELIE. A device.
3. *Doddington, ½d.*  
O. JOHN JOHNSON. A wind mill.  
R. OF DODDINGTON, 1669. His. Half. Penny.
4. *Littleport, ½d.*  
O. LITTLEPORT, ILE OF ELY. A Key.  
R. YE OVERSEERS OF YE POOR, 1668.
5. *Chatteris, ½d.*  
O. THOMAS COAPE AT THE. A gate.  
R. AT CHATTERIS FERREY. HIS. HALF. PENY. 1670

\* *Handbook to the Fenland* under Holbech; also Wisbech.



6. *March.*  
O. THOMAS TOWERS. A tower.  
R. IN MARCH, 1669. HIS. HALFE. PENY.
7. *Whittlesey, ½d.*  
O. ROBERT IVES, 1667. A woolcomb.  
R. OF WHITTLESEY. R.I.I.
8. *Wisbech, ½d.*  
O. JOHN. BELLAMY 1667. The Grocers' Arms.  
R. OF WISBECH. Grocer. His Halfe. Penny I.I.B.
9. *St. Ives, ½d.*  
O. THE OVERSEERS HALFE PENY OF ST. IVES 1669.  
R. POOR WOMEN. Two women washing at a tub.
10. *Cottenham.*  
O. PHILIP CHAMBERS. His Half. Penny.  
R. IN COTTENHAM 1668. A wild man with club over his shoulders.
11. *St. Neots, ½d.*  
O. THE OVERSEERS OF THEIR HALFE PENY.  
R. THE TOWNE OF ST. NEOTS. Two women seated making lace.
12. *Peterborough, ½d.*  
O. The overseers. half. peny of Peterborough 1669  
(In five lines).  
R. (No legend). Two swords in saltire, between four crosses, pattée fitchée, Octagonal.

S. H. MILLER.

## 843.—Will of Margaret Toppesfelde, of Ely, 1484.—

This will is interesting for many reasons. It is found in the wills of the Consistory Court of Ely, I. 38. Some of the expressions present difficulties which possibly some correspondent may be able to explain.

In dei nomine Amen. Anno domini millesimo quadringentesimo quinquagesimo quarto octavo die Mensis Januarij Ego Margaret Toppesfelde de Ely sane memorie &c. In primis lego animam meam &c. Corpusque meum &c. Item lego summo altari (1) x<sup>s</sup>. Item lego feretro Sancte Etheldrede meum annulum aureum cum una petra vocata upaleyse (2) Item lego domino priori Ecclesie predicte ij<sup>s</sup> et cuilibet monacho eiusdem loci xij<sup>d</sup> Item Capelle parochiali Ecclesie sancte trinitatis iij<sup>s</sup> iij<sup>d</sup> Item Clerico parochiali eiusdem Ecclesie vi<sup>d</sup> Item volo quod unus Capellanus ydoneus celebret pro Anima mea infra Ecclesiam parochialem predictam per duos annos continuos post obitum meum Item lego Albrede Walpole filie mee xl<sup>s</sup> de illis sex marcas (*sic*) tribus solidis et quatuor

denariis quos Nicholaus Walpole maritus eiusdem Albrede habuit de me ex mutuo Item volo quod Willielmus Walpole Petrus et Albrede filii dicte Albrede filie mee habeant residuum eiusdem monete ad dividendum inter eos equis porconibus Item lego ad reparaconem diversorum ornamentorum infra Ecclesiam parochialem predictum x<sup>s</sup> Item lego Capelle ex parte australi ecclesie de Elham magna (3) in Comitatu Essex meum vestimentum nigrum cum omnibus pertinentiis Item volo quod Albreda filia mea habeat unum missale cum Calice de argento ac Cetera mea vestimenta cum aliis rebus pertinentibus oratorio meo apud Ely Item lego eidem Albrede unum ciphum argenteum stantem cum cooperculo Item lego Margarete uxori Ricardi Rows unum alium ciphum argenteum stantem (4) cum cooperculo Item lego dicte Albrede unum par preciarum (5) de ambir cum j bocle de auro Item lego predictae Margarete Rous j par aliarum preciarum de Corell cum lez paternoster de argento et deaurato Item lego eidem Margarete unam zonam argenteam cum corpore de nigro serico Item lego dicte Albrede meam optimam murram et secundam murram dicte Margarete Rows Item eidem Albrede sex cocliaria argentea et dicte Margarete sex cocliaria argentea Item eidem Albrede meam togam optimam et dicte Margarete proximam togam Item lego eidem Albrede et Margarete omnia vasa mea ennea et de Stanno cum pelvis et lavacris de laton Item quod dimidia pars remaneat eidem Albrede et altera pars dicte Margarete Rous per visum executorum meorum Item lego dicte Albrede meum lectum optimum cum omnibus dicto lecto pertinentibus Item dicte Margarete Rus proximum meum lectum vocatum le Swan bedde cum omnibus dicto lecto pertinentibus Item volo quod omnia alia lectualia mea camere mee distribuuntur inter ceteros pueros supradicte Albrede filie mee per visum dictorum executorum meorum Item lego summo altari infra Ecclesiam Sancte Trinitatis supradictam unam mappam dapyrde Item lego dicte Albrede optimum pomarium (6) meum et Margarete Rus secundum meum pomarium cum rotulo xv oracionum (7) Executores meos facio Johannem Seman Capellanum et Nicholaum Chaundelere de Ely quibus do residuum bonorum meorum ut ipsi debita mea solvant et voluntatem meam perimpleant et disponant prout melius viderint deo placere Et siquis eorum pro causis predictis laboraverit volo quod tam pro labore quam pro suis expensis ex hac causa habitis rationabiliter eis fit satisfactum hiis testibus (8).

The will was proved 20 Aug., 1455. It is not necessary to give a full translation ; the substance is this :—In the name of God Amen. On 8 Jan., 1454, I Margaret Toppesfelde of Ely, of sound memory, &c., bequeath my soul, &c., and my body, &c.; to the high altar, 10s.; to the shrine of S. Etheldreda, my gold ring with a stone called an opal ; to the prior of the church aforesaid, 2s., and to each monk, 12d.; to the parish chapel of the church of Holy Trinity, 3s. 4d.; to the parish clerk, 6d.; my will is also that a fit chaplain should celebrate masses for my soul in the said parish church for two whole years ; to Albreda Walpole my daughter, 40s. of the money, £4 3s. 4d., which Nicholas Walpole her husband had from me on mutual terms ; William, Peter, and Albreda, her children to have

residue of the same money ; to the repairs of divers ornaments within the said church, 10s. ; to the chapel on the south side of the church of Great Elham in Essex, my black vestment with all its belongings ; my daughter Albreda to have a missal with silver chalice and other things belonging to my oratory at Ely ; to her a silver standing cup with cover ; to Margaret wife of Richard Rows another silver standing cup with cover ; to Albreda a pair of rosaries of amber and a buckle of gold ; to Margaret a pair of other rosaries of coral with the paternoster of silver gilt, also a silver girdle with body of black silk ; to Albreda my best mazer, and my second best mazer to Margaret ; to each of them six silver spoons ; to Albreda my best gown and to Margaret my second best ; to them all my vessels of brass and tin and basins and ewers of latten, my executors to divide them ; to Albreda my best bed with its belongings ; to Margaret my second best bed, called The Swan Bed, with its belongings ; all the rest of the bedding in my chamber to be divided by my executors among the other children of Albreda ; to the high altar of Holy Trinity church a diaper napkin ; to Albreda my best pomander ; to Margaret my second best with a roll of 15 beads. Exors., John Seman, Chaplain, and Nicholas Chaundelere, of Ely ; they to have residue to pay my debts and discharge this will, and to have reasonable satisfaction for their own labour and expenses.

- (1) No church is named, but from the two following next bequests this is probably the high altar of the cathedral. (2) The last 6 letters are clear enough, but the first two are very difficult. I can only suggest opal for the stone indicated. (3) Perhaps Great Yeldham. (4) This is no doubt the word meant, though miswritten in the register. (5) The context seems to require rosaries, as a translation of *precariarum* ; but I can find no such meaning in any dictionary or glossary of mediæval Latin. (6) This must mean a pomander, a spherical box, sometimes of silver, containing perfumes. The name was also given to an apple-shaped metal box filled with

charcoal or hot water, used to keep the hands warm in cold churches. (7) This is another puzzle. My only suggestion is as translated above. (8) Witnesses not named in register.

Ed.

**844.—Briefs at Surfleet.**—From the registers at Surfleet Mr. J. T. Bealby has made out a list of collections under briefs in that parish. It extends only from 1672 to 1708, 36 years. The amounts collected are given here according to modern notation.

|      |          |   |         |
|------|----------|---|---------|
| 1672 | 9 June.  | Hamlet of Ligrive (Leagrove) in parish of     | £ s. d. |
|      |          | Luton, co. Beds. ....                         | 6 9     |
| 1674 | 13 Sep.  | S. Katherine's neare unto London.....         | 5 7     |
| 1675 | 25 Apr.  | Towne of Redbor (Redburn), co. Herts. ....    | 4 (?)   |
| 1676 | 2 Aug.   | Northampton .....                             | 2 4 1   |
| 1679 | 31 Aug.  | Pattingham, co. Staff. ....                   | 3 10    |
| 1680 | 8 Aug.   | Tadcaster, co. York. ....                     | 4 2     |
|      | 12 Sep.  | Weston in Bulkington parish, co. Warw. ....   | 3 11    |
|      | 24 Sep.  | East Deerham, co. Norf., house to house ..... | 13 9    |
| 1681 | 3 May.   | Captives in Algiers .....                     | 8 16 1  |
|      | 24 Sep.  | S. Albans church .....                        | 11 5    |
|      | 14 Oct.  | Stafford and Polland (?) .....                | 17 11   |
| 1682 | 6 Jan.   | French Protestants .....                      | 1 19 1  |
|      | 29 Jan.  | Bishton, co. Staff. ....                      | 7 5     |
|      | 19 Mar.  | East Budley (Budleigh), co. Devon.....        | 3 11    |
|      | 23 Apr.  | Castor, co. Linc.....                         | 5 2     |
| 1707 | 1 June.  | Littleports, Isle of Ely.....                 | 4 0     |
|      | 22 June. | Shirehampton, co. Glouc.....                  | 5 7½    |
|      | 6 July.  | Broseley, co. Salop....                       | 3 11    |
|      | 3 Aug.   | Joseph Wakelin .....                          | 5 1½    |
|      | 26 Oct.  | Southam, co. Warw. ....                       | 5 0½    |
|      | 9 Nov.   | Orford church, co. Suff. ....                 | 3 1½    |
|      | 23 Nov.  | Dunsby, co. Linc. ....                        | 3 6½    |
| 1708 | 14 Mar.  | Protestant Church of Oberbarmen.....          | 7 2     |
|      | Apr. (?) | Relief of American Clergy .....               | 10 6    |

The large collection for Northampton was in respect of a dreadful fire which occurred 20 Sep., 1675. In it 600 houses were destroyed, and 11 lives lost. The destruction of property was by some estimated at a quarter of a million sterling; but in this valuation All Saints' church was put down at £50,000. The result of the collections under briefs was £25,000, a sum £7,000 in excess of what was raised after the great fire of

London. By Oberbarmen is meant Oberbarnim in Prussia, the district of which Potsdam is the capital. It will be seen that though a period of 36 years is included in the foregoing list, yet only ten years are entered.

**845.—Chantry Lands: East Deeping.**—Commissions for enquiry concerning concealed lands were not uncommon in the reigns of Edward VI. and Elizabeth. An Act of the 1st year of Edward VI., c. 14, vested in the King all the possessions of chantries "which by devising and phantasing wayne opinions of purgatory and by the abuse of trentalls made for continuance of such blindness and ignorance," and declared that such possessions should be converted to good and godly uses, in the erecting of grammar schools for the education of youth. The origin of the endowments of obits and perpetual lamps in churches was uncertain. This led to concealments and transfers to nominees, devices which were crossed by vigilant informers who sent their "poor gifts" and petitions for a grant of the concealed lands, when the King had got his own again. The Guildhall in East Deeping was used as a free school in 1587, and probably the rent of the Chantry Lands were devoted to its maintenance; so it is not easy to see why this commission of 1587 was issued. L.G.

Special Commission. 29 Eliz. No. 1314.

Lincoln.

Inquisitio Indentata Capta apud Estdepinge Comitatu predicto xx iiij<sup>to</sup> die Aprilis anno regni domine nostre Elizabethe Dei gratia Anglie Frauncie et Hibernie Regine fidei defensoris, &c. Vicesimo nono Coram Ricardo Shute gen. Willelmo Atkinson gen. et Henrico Jeffarson gen. Commissionariis dicte regine virtute commissionis ejusdem domine Regine eis Inter alios directe et huic Inquisitioni annexe Ad inquirendum de diversis terris tenementis et hereditamentis ut supponitur fore concealatis et detentis a possessione dicte Regine in Eastdepinge Westdepinge et James Depinge in dicta Commissione specificatis per sacramentum Thome Pavye Willelmi Plumton Johannis Warde Godrici Herdford Johannis Roote Ricardi Garthe Edwardi Norton Thome Safforde Thome Masecy Willelmi Foo Roberti Curtis sen. Johannis Sanderson Leonardi Fawcet Edwardi Foo Willelmi Bate et Willelmi Lambert Qui super sacramentum suum dicunt quod fuit unum mesuagium cum pertinentiis vocatum le Guildehall in Hungate in parochia Sancti Goodlac in Eastdepinge quod ad usum Communis Schole ibidem convertitur annui valoris (*blank*) Ac unum tenementum cum crofto eidem adjacente jacens ex parte boreali ejusdem

messuagii modo in occupatione cujusdam Johannis Walche annui valoris quinque solidorum Ac unum cottagium incrofto jacens ex parte orientali Crucis in Townegate in parochia Sancti Goodlac in Eastdepinge predicta cum septem acris et una roda terre et prati in tenura Henrici Warde annui valoris xij<sup>s</sup> lijd<sup>s</sup> Ac unum cottagium cum pertinentiis cumcrofto eidem adjacente ex occidentali parte Crucis in Townegate predicta cum sex acris terre arrabilis modo in tenura Willelmi Bentley annui valoris xi<sup>s</sup> Ac unum parvum cottagium eidem messuagio adjacens ex parte occidentali dicte Crucis in Townegate predicta nuper in tenura Willelmi More annui valoris ij<sup>s</sup> Ac unumcroftum continens per estimationem dimidium acre terre et pasture in parochia predicta modo in tenura Margerie Lownde annui valoris xvjd<sup>s</sup> Ac unum aliud Cottagium cum le hive cum pertinentiis in parochia Sancti Jacobi modo in tenura Roberti Clarke Taylor annui valoris vi<sup>s</sup> Ac unum horreum ex parte occidentali dicte Townegate Crosse quondam le Guildehall modo in occupatione Willelmi Bentley annui valoris ij<sup>s</sup> ac una acra terre in Campo Boreali et dimidium acre prati in parochia Sancti Goodlac in Hall Medowe in quodam loco vocato Bone Parke Hill modo in tenura Inhabitantium ville Eastdepinge predictae annui valoris iij<sup>s</sup> fuerunt parcella possessionum terrarum et hereditamentorum Guilde beate Marie et omnium Sanctorum infra parochiam Sancti Goodlac in Eastdepinge predicta ac modo sunt terre concealate et sic fuerunt concealate a tempore cujusdam actus parlamenti editi Anno primo Regis Edwardi Sexti usque diem capcionis hujus Inquisitionis ac detente per predictos nunc occupantes et alios premissa predicta occupantes a possessione dicte domine Regine In cujus rei testimonium tam Commissionarii predicti quam juratores huic Inquisitioni sigilla sua apposuere

per me Ricardum Shute  
Willelmum Atkynson  
Henricum Jeffarson

Lincoln.

This inquisition by indenture taken at East Deeping in the county aforesaid, on the 24th day of April in the 29th year of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queen of England, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. Before Richard Shute, gent.; William Atkinson, gent.; and Henry Jeffarson, gent.; Commissioners of the said Queen by virtue of the commission of the same Lady the Queen to them among others directed and annexed to this inquisition, to enquire concerning divers lands, tenements, and hereditaments, specified in the said commission, which are supposed to be concealed and detained from the possession of the said Lady the Queen in East Deeping, West Deeping, and James Deeping, upon the oath of Thomas Pavye, William Plumton, John Warde, Godric Herdford, John Boote, Richard Garthe, Edward Norton, Thomas Safforde, Thomas Massey, William Foo, Robert Curtis, sen., John Sanderson, Leonard Fawcet,

Edward Foo, William Bate, and William Lambert, who on their oath say: that there was one messuage with appurtenances called the Guildhall in Hungate in the parish of S. Guthlac, in East Deeping, which is converted to the use of a Free School there, of the annual value nil; And one tenement with a croft adjacent, lying on the north of the said messuage, now in the occupation of one John Walche, of the annual value of five shillings; And one cottage in a croft, lying on the east of the cross in Towngate, in the parish of S. Guthlac, in East Deeping, with seven acres and one rood of land and meadow in the tenure of Henry Warde, of the annual value of 12s. 3d.; And one cottage with appurtenances with the croft adjacent, on the west side of the cross in Towngate with six acres of arable land, now in the tenure of William Bentley, of the annual value of 11s.; And one small cottage adjacent to the same messuage, on the west side of the cross in Towngate, lately in the tenure of William More, of the annual value of 2s.; And one croft estimated to contain half an acre of land and pasture in the said parish, now in the tenure of Margery Lownde, of the annual value of 16 pence; and one other cottage with the hive and appurtenances in the parish of S. James, now in the tenure of Robert Clarke, Taylor, of the annual value of 6s.; And one barn on the west side of Towngate Cross, formerly the Guildhall, now in the occupation of William Bentley, of the annual value of 2s.; and one acre of land in North Field and half an acre of meadow in the parish of S. Guthlac in Hall Meadow, in a place called Bone Park Hill, now in the tenure of the inhabitants of the town of East Deeping, of the annual value of 3s.; were parcel of the possessions, lands and hereditaments, of the Guilds of Blessed Mary and All Saints within the parish of S. Guthlac, in East Deeping, and now are concealed lands, and have been so concealed from the date of an Act of Parliament of the 1st year of King Edward VI., to the day of the taking of this Inquisition, and are detained by the now occupants and others occupying

the said premises from the possession of said Lady the Queen. In witness whereof both the said commissioners, and the jurors, have put their seals to this inquisition.

By me, Richard Shute,  
William Atkynson,  
Henry Jeffarson.

**846.—Town Bailiff's Accounts, Deeping S. James, 1700.**—A single leaf only of the old accounts of the bailiffs of this parish has been discovered. The receipts for the year have not been found. The first payment is to the Rev. George Sweeting, who came hereas Vicar this same year 1700. His burial is entered in the Register on 20 Sep., 1709. Stowgate Farm and Stowgate Mill are in Deeping Fen, something over two miles east and north east of Deeping S. James' church. Horsegate is a road about half way between this and Market Deeping church. A clow, or clough, is a sluice; the clow-bridge probably a bridge close by the sluice. "Rought" is not in any glossary.

The Disbursements of Joshua Baly in office of Towne Bailiffe for y<sup>e</sup> year 1700.

|   | £  | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Paid Mr. Sweeting .....   | 10 | 00 | 00 |
| Pd Thom. LLeton for littering of Waing at y <sup>e</sup> Way Bridge .....                             | 00 | 00 | 06 |
| Pd Hump: Walls for Work he did at y <sup>e</sup> Vickerage house .....                                | 00 | 03 | 06 |
| Pd Zachari Turnill & W <sup>m</sup> . Stretton for Worke they did at y <sup>e</sup> towne houses..... | 01 | 12 | 06 |
| Pd Thom. Walls for Worke he did at Wido Wilsons house.....  | 00 | 04 | 00 |
| Pd W <sup>m</sup> . Betts for mending of three tunills w <sup>ch</sup> belong to y <sup>e</sup> towne | 00 | 10 | 00 |
| Pd Edw <sup>d</sup> . Davies .....  | 00 | 13 | 10 |
| Pd Jam' Harinton for thacking at Rich Norfolks house.....   | 01 | 09 |    |
| Payd Zacariah Turnell for wood nayles and Labour for mending Sto Gate bridg .....                     | 0  | 3  | 2  |
| Payd William Catling and William Hugate for y <sup>e</sup> same work ..                               | 0  | 2  | 0  |
| . . . read to John Harro . . . for a Load and a hafe of stones  | 0  | 7  | 6  |
| for 40 shofes of thackes.....   | 0  | 1  | 8  |
| Pd Sollom Hall for Scourin p <sup>t</sup> of Horsgate Rought.....                                     | 6  | 0  |    |
| Pd W <sup>m</sup> . Darsey for Mendin of y <sup>e</sup> Clowbridg.....                                | 0  | 1  | 0  |
| Pd for bread and Ale W <sup>m</sup> Betts had when he meded y <sup>e</sup> tunills...                 | 0  | 8  |    |
|   | 14 | 8  | 1  |

the Accounts of Sam<sup>l</sup>. Sharpe & Joshua Baly in ofic of town Baliffe.



**847.—Patriotic Spalding.**—Under this heading “An old Book-worm,” in *The Spalding Guardian* for 3 March, 1900, gives some notices of the Volunteer Movement in that town. The earliest note (but this does not strictly bear upon Volunteers) relates to the licence to crenellate granted to the Prior and Convent in 1334. In 1694 Spalding was the headquarters of a company of Infantry Militia, numbering 99. This was raised from the parishes in the neighbourhood. Maurice Johnson, of Ayscoughfee Hall, John Stukeley, and Samuel Hook were officers. The hundred of Elloe at the same date had a company of 91 men, the officers being Reuben Perks and William Joy. In 1697 and 1698, in the month of July, the annual training of the North Lincolnshire Cavalry Militia was held at Spalding.

The account of the Yeomanry Cavalry, nearly 100 years later, may be quoted at full.

In June, 1794, about the time Britain and other European countries declared war against the New French Republic, a meeting was held at the Town Hall, Spalding, to take into consideration a resolution agreed to at a general county meeting at Lincoln a fortnight previously, for the internal defence of the country. The Rev. Maurice Johnson was in the chair, and it was resolved that a Squadron of Volunteer Cavalry, to consist of two troops of fifty men each, should be raised, to be called the South Holland Yeomanry.

The committee empowered to obtain subscriptions consisted of Rev. Maurice Johnson, Mr. Tatam, Mr. Saunderson, Captain Wilson, and Mr. Edwd. Presgrave, and altogether £300 was raised. Included in this was a donation of £60 from “J. G. Thompson, amount of Spalding Race Subscription.” The following gentlemen were enrolled as members at the meeting:—Thomas Wilson, Thomas Foster, Robert Ayre, Edward Presgrave, Philip Godby, William Wright, Charles Parker, George Ayscough, William Hobson, Charles Carter, Thomas Maples, Richard Bennett, Dickenson Jennings, Isaac Grain.

The rules stated that the members should not receive pay unless called out for service, that they should attend for drill not more than two days a week, of which Sunday was to be one, “mounted on a serviceable gelding or mare not less than 14½ hands in height”; that they might be called upon by His Majesty in case of actual invasion or appearance of invasion to march out of the county or to assemble within the same to repel such invasion; or to act within the county or adjacent counties for the suppression of riots or tumults, when called upon by His Majesty or by the Lord Lieutenant or Sheriff of the County. When called out they were to receive pay as Light Dragoons, and were to be subject to military discipline. The arms and accoutrements were to be furnished by county subscription.

They were actually called out in 1799 to quell a riot at Boston, which arose out of some misunderstanding about balloting for the Militia.

The Standard, or Ensign, for the South Holland Squadron, was to be scarlet silk, fringed with gold and silk fringe. In the centre was to be a garter with the words "South Lincolnshire Squadron," and in the middle of the garter the words, "Loyal Lincolnshire Yeomanry," with a crown above.

As a proof of the estimation in which the services of the squadron were held in the country, it may be mentioned, that in 1807 the House of Commons passed a resolution of thanks to various Volunteer Companies (amongst others that of Spalding being named) for their great services at so momentous a crisis in the history of the country, and the patriotic example they set to posterity.

The bill respecting the formation of a Rifle Volunteer Corps for Spalding and Long Sutton in the present century was dated 13 Sep., 1859, and signed by Robert Everard, Chairman of the Committee of Deputy Lieutenants. The public meeting, at which it was unanimously resolved to form such a Corps, was held at Spalding on 23 June.

**848.—Wicken Fen.**—The only piece of original Fen left in the country is believed to be Wicken Fen, near Burwell in Cambridgeshire. Many persons have been distressed to hear that there is some talk of reclaiming it; and not a few have been filled with consternation at the possibility of such a thing. There was a short leading article in *The Standard* of 21 April, 1900, on the subject. While recognising the utilitarian arguments in favour of the design, the writer gives an appreciative account of the present appearance of the Fen; and we think our readers will peruse it with pleasure.

Wicken Fen, in Cambridgeshire, is, it is reported, about to be reclaimed. If sentence has been really pronounced, naturalists will pray that execution may be stayed, since this is the last important remnant of the great East Anglian Fenland. Enclosed by broad ditches which can only be jumped with the help of a pole, it is overgrown with coarse sedge and willow-bush. Rare plants and rare insects lurk in this natural sanctuary, and make a happy hunting ground for the botanist and entomologist. The Fen lies near the East bank of the Cam, about half way between Cambridge and Ely, and within easy reach of the lonely little place of entertainment at Upware. The fenland, which once extended Southward almost up to Cambridge, has not yet attained nearly its greatest width. On the West it stretches far away up the course of the Old Ouse, but, on the other hand, it is bounded at no very great distance by the low edge of the East Anglian plateau; Northward it extends yet farther, but here also the uniformity of the horizon is interrupted by what gives the view its greatest charm. Some eight miles away lies the long bank of the Isle of Ely, from which the noble Cathedral, crowned by its central octagonal lantern and its grand Western Tower, looms up against the sky. Were it not for that the scene

would be absolutely monotonous, yet it has a charm of its own in a sense of indefinite vastness, and nowhere in England are the sunrises and sunsets more glorious, for a whole hemisphere of sky over-arches the place. But the charm of the Fen is greatest when it is explored minutely, especially by the lover of Natural History. One glance around in Wicken Fen is a new experience. The sedge-clad flat is enough in itself, but a little searching shows many rare plants. The marsh fern, with its delicate fronds, creeps in the coarse herbage, which is spotted by numbers of flowering plants, from the slender bedstraws and forget-me-nots to the common marsh marigold and a rare aster, while the dark water is brightened by ranunculus and arrow-head and lilies, yellow and white. But the entomologist finds even greater prizes. The swallow-tail, perhaps the most beautiful of English butterflies, still lingers, though not nearly so common as formerly, when it was less hunted, and the food-plant of its caterpillar grew almost everywhere. Now and again a rare sphinx or clearwing may be found, and the gorgeous scarlet tiger. Of commoner moths, there are the brown lappet, so like a dead leaf, and the crimson underwing, besides many others scarcer though less conspicuous. Dragonflies dart to and fro like microscopic humming birds, the green snake writhes through the herbage, while rare birds still haunt the fens, though not in the abundance of forty years ago. Sometimes, however, a harrier or one of the scarcer hawks may be seen poised overhead. Dunlin, sandpipers, snipe, teal, ducks of various kinds, and in a hard Winter wild geese visit the place; possibly even a hooper swan makes its appearance. But the drainage of the fens has gradually driven most of them away from East Anglia. For several centuries after the days of the Romans, who had done something in the way of reclamation, Nature was left undisturbed. But during the past two hundred years fields have replaced the marshes, reed-clad in Summer, often one vast sheet of water in Winter, and now, from the tower of Ely, one looks down in early Autumn on a golden ocean of grain. On the whole, no doubt, it is a change for the better, yet one space might well be preserved as a survival of the olden time.

For some days a correspondence was kept up in the paper upon the subject. Without an exception the writers deplored the proposed reclamation. Mr. H. M. Finch, of the Temple, after speaking of the rare plants and creatures to be found there, says:—"When one considers the romantic history of the neighbourhood, and its unique possessions of modern fauna, it may be claimed for Wicken Fen that it has a monopoly of interest for the student of Natural History, and it is to be hoped that, as a result of this correspondence in *The Standard*, some steps may be taken to preserve it, and to divert the aim of the destroying 'sportsman' from the spotted crake to the suburban house sparrow."

A Fellow of the Entomological Society suggests that some wealthy naturalist, or some society, should purchase the Fen, and constitute it an asylum where the rare butterflies might be secured from extermination. Other correspondents pointed out

that the expense would not be very great, because the actual market value of the land must be inconsiderable. Mr. Redfern, who lives within three miles of Wicken Fen, offered his services to assist in saving it by acting "as a medium for any properly organised body of entomologists, botanists, and artists," who are interested in its preservation. Others offered to help in the endeavour by subscription. From the letter of Mr. H. Goss, who wrote from the office of "The National Trust for Places of Historical Interest or Natural Beauty," there seems to be a good hope of success in the opposition to the scheme of drainage. He says:—"A gentleman of influence in the East of England—whose name I am not authorised to divulge—has made a generous offer, and negotiations are in progress which, it is hoped, may ultimately lead to the preservation of the whole, or greater part, of this last fragment of Ancient Cambridgeshire Fenland."

There is an admirable account of Wicken Fen, describing how to reach it, and what to see, accompanied by a clear map of the route, in the Introduction to "The Handbook to the Fenland" written by our esteemed correspondent, Mr. S. H. Miller.

Ed.

**849.—Dr. Oxenbridge's Oath, 1583.**—Andrew Oxenbridge, LL.D., a prisoner for religion in Wisbech Castle, was thought to have transgressed against various statutes passed during the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Elizabeth, for preserving the power of the Crown against the usurpation of the See of Rome. It is strange that a lawyer should rather go to prison than swallow an oath. The Doctor was reluctant to declare that the Queen was the only supreme authority as well in all spiritual and ecclesiastical things or causes as in temporal things. It was difficult for an ecclesiastic to reconcile the Oath of Supremacy with obedience to the Roman Church; but there is nothing incompatible with obedience to the State in the adherence of a layman to the discipline of the Catholic Church. It is not easy to see the use of such a test, but times

have changed. The Doctor's way to get out of it, one thinks now, might have satisfied the Council; it is long enough.

The Doctor's history is obscure. An American namesake in a recent genealogical work on "the Oxenbridges," confuses Dr. A. Oxenbridge with Dr. John Oxenbridge, a well known Nonconformist divine, of Charles I.'s reign. Our Doctor seems to be the Mr. Oxenbridge who was senior bursar of King's College, Cambridge, in 1561, when the new chapel was completed, and who rode to Ramsey to supervise the demolition of the Abbey which supplied stone for the floor, and lead for the roof, of the chapel.

The Doctor was a prisoner for some years. In 1581, the Council permitted the keeper of Wisbech Castle to suffer Mistress Oxenbridge to see her husband, and to remain two months.

This is the oath of supremacy taken by Dr. Oxenbridge: it is given in *S. P. Dom.*, Eliz. 160, 44.

At Wisbiche Castell, 14 Maii 1583.

I Andrewe Oxenbridge doctor of the Lawes doe franclie and from my harte acknowledge and avowe the most gracions Ladie Elizabeth nowe Queene of England to be most rightfull and lawfull Queene thereof de jure as whereof she is most justellie possessed from ye firste daie of her raigne till nowe. And to her Mat<sup>e</sup> alone as to my moste juste and sole Sovereaigne magistrate I owe all my loialtie, service and wholle dutie of subjection next under God, and ever soe will I repute her Mat<sup>e</sup> duringe liffe against the Bull, if anie be, of Pius 5, Gregorie or anie other Pope heretofore or hereafter. Furthermore if anie man pretendinge Catholike Romaine religion be minded that the Pope for one cause or other may deprive her or dispense with her subjects othe and loialtie I hould it a traytorous article (such none doe beleive); but contrarilie am redie and vowe to spend my liffe and goods for peace and quiet of Queene Elizabeth and this present state against anie invaders, disturbers or underminers by what authoritie Bull or direction he shall doe it, of Prince or priest, potentate or prelate, by what jurisdiction power or name be it soever he comaunde And as touching matter of religion to avoide all shewe of obstinit holdinge of things by me once received I promise that if in conference with anie lerned man which being sent by authoritie I will willingly admytt, he can convince me by the onlie scripture of the olde and newe Testament to hould anie error I will hould me to better reason and thank God.

All this I protest simplie and plainlie according to ye plain show of the wordes abhorring all hidden sophistical and dissembled reservacon of private sence or secret interpretation which may never soe littell impeache qualifie or modifie the expresse, most common and rediest takings of the verie wordes as thei laye and offer themselves without forced understandinge.

per me Andrew Oxenbridge.

L.G.

**850.—Agreements between Abbeys of Burgh and Croyland: 13th century.**—The three deeds here given, two being final concords and one an agreement between the Abbots of Burgh and Croyland, are contained in a single roll, belonging to The Gentlemen's Society of Spalding, and have been transcribed by permission of the President, Dr. Perry. They are manifestly not the originals, having no signatures or seals: but the roll is a very early copy. It has not been thought necessary to give a full translation; but the substance of each is given, together with some notes. The dates respectively are (I.) Monday, 6 Feb., 1206; (II.) 24 June, 1247; (III.) 1216.

(I).

Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia Domini Regis apud Lexington die lune proximo post Purificationem beate Marie Anno Regni Regis Johannis Septimo coram ipso Domino Rege &c. Inter Acharium Abbatem et conventum de Burgo Petentem et Henricum Abbatem et conventum de Croyland tenentem de una virgata terre in Peychirch et de quodam Marisco cuius tales sunt mete Scilicet ab aqua de Croyland que dicitur Neen usque ad locum qui dicitur Fynset et ab illo loco qui dicitur Fynset usque Greynes et a Greynes usque ad Foldwarstakyng et inde usque ad Southlake ubi Southlak cadit in Weland et inde sicut aqua de Weland currit usque ad Croyland et ibi cadit in Neen Unde placitum fuit inter eos in eadem curia Quod\* predictus Abbas de Croyland recognovit et concessit predictam terram et predictum Mariscum cum pertinentijs esse feodum Abbatis et ecclesie sancti Petri de Burgo et pro hac recognitione et concessione fine et concordia ijdem Abbas et conventus de Burgo concesserunt predictis Abbati et conventui de Croyland prefatam virgatam terre cum pertinentijs suis in Peykirk habendam et tenendam sibi et successoribus suis de Abbate et conventu Monasterij de Burgo et successoribus suis per servitium quod ad eandem terram pertinet sicut partita est inter illos qui eam tenent Scilicet de Tofto cum terra in campo quod Reginaldus Faber inde tenuit per unum diem arare in hieme et per unum diem in quadragesima cum tanto quantum ille qui toftum illud et terram tenuerit habebit in carruca Et debet per unum diem sarculare et per unum diem fenum levare et parare in prato de Makesea in Dominico prato Abbatis de Burgo cum hominibus ipsius Abbatis de Burgo Et debet in autumpno dimidiam acram terre metere et bladum ligare et super eandem terram intassare et omnia predicta debet facere ad Custum suum et debet in autumpno ad cibum ipsius Abbatis de Burgo per unum diem metere cum uno homine bladum ipsius Abbatis in campo de Peykirk vel Glynton Et si Abbas de Burgo eum non pascat eo die non debet metere nisi usque ad nonam. Et Toftum cum terra in campo quod Gocelinus filius Godwine inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Willelmus filius Radulphi inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Averus filius Alwold inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Petrus Palmer inde tenuit debet facere

\* In margin, notate hic.

† In margin, notate hic pro Abbate de Croylande.

omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Willelmus filius Sewen inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Walterus filius Reginaldi inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Reginaldus Carpenter inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines Toftum cum terra in campo quod Ricardus filius Alwerici inde tenuit debet facere omnia predicta servicia et predictas consuetudines et preterea debet bis in hieme arare et bis in quadragesima Ita quod ter arabit in hieme et ter in quadragesima ad custum suum Et debet ducere unam carratum bosci a marisco usque in curiam Abbatis de Burgo apud Burgum ad festum sancti Michaelis Et preterea omnes homines predictam terram tenentes debet sequi hundredum Abbatis de Burgo per quolibet xv dies et debent vi denarios et obulum per annum de hidagio Et debent monstrare Abbati de Burgo vel ballivis suis franciplegium suum Et debent facere vigiliam cum alijs hominibus provincie ad debitum et statutum locum sicut facere consueverunt inter festum sancti Michaelis et festum sancti Martini Hec Autem servicia et has consuetudines habebunt predicti Abbas et conventus de Burgo et successores eorum de predicta terra Ita quod illas non poterunt augere vel mutare nec amplius de terra illa in aliquo exigere Abbas\* quoque et conventus de Burgo concesserunt eidem Abbati et conventui de Croyland predictum Mariscum secundum quod per predictas metas distinctum est habendum et tenendum sibi et successoribus suis de ipsis Abbate et conventu de Burgo et successoribus eorum in perpetuum reddendo inde per annum in ecclesia Sancti Petri de Burgo quatuor petras cere Infra Octavam Apostolorum Petri et Pauli pro omni servitio et exactione Ita quod Abbas et conventus de Burgo vel eorum successores nichil ultra illas quatuor petras cere inde poterunt exigere Salvo tamen eo quod Abbas et conventus de Burgo habebunt commodum herbagij de omnibus averijs tam proprijs quam hominum suorum quin etiam averijs quorumlibet aliorum qui intrabunt illud mariscum preterquam de dominicis averijs Abbatis et conventus de Croyland et hominum suorum de Croyland et de Peykirk Et sciendum est quod licet Abbati et conventui de Croyland hominibus suis de Croyland sine occasione et contradictione et impedimento Abbatis et conventus de Burgo et suorum servientium ibi turbam fodere et ubi turbam foderint sub turba argillam et sabulum capere et falcare in marisco illo Ros et Juncum et Glagellum et Bindynghum Ita tamen quod non removeant averia que ibi fuerint de pastura sua Poterunt etiam colpare et habere Ramiliam et omnia genera arborum que in eodem Marisco fuerint Preterea de alio Marisco de Peykirk que est extra predictas metas convenit inter eosdem Abbates et Conventus quod licebit Abbati et Conventui de Burgo sine Impedimento et contradictione Abbatis de Croyland et servientium suorum in eo pratum facere secundum quantitatem feodorum suorum que communicant in eadem pastura Et licebit similiter Abbati et Conventui de Croyland pratum facere in eodem marisco secundum quantitatem feodorum suorum que ibi communicant sine Impedimento et contradictione Abbatis et conventus de Burgo et servientium suorum.

## (II).

Hec est finalis concordia facta in Curia Domini Regis apud Northampton a die sancti Johannis Baptiste in unum mensem Anno Regni Regis Henrici filij Johannis tricesimo primo coram Rogero de Turkelby &c. et alijs Domini Regis fidelibus tunc ididem presentibus inter Ricardum

\* In margin, Notate hic pro Abbate de Croylande.

† In margin, Notate hic pro Abbate de Burgo.

‡ In margin, Nota pro Abbate de Croyland.

Bardenay Abbatem de Croyland querentem et Willelmum Abbatem de Burgo deforciantem de una virgata terre cum pertinentiis in Peykirk et de quodam Marisco qui jacet infra metas subscriptas scilicet ab aqua de Croyland que notatur Neen usque ad illum locum qui vocatur Fynset et ab illo loco usque ad Greynes et a Greynes usque ad Folwardstakyng et deinde usque ad Southlake ubi Southlake cadit in Weland et sic sicut aqua que vocatur Weland currit usque ad Croyland et ibi cadit in Neen unde finis factus fuit in Curia Domini Regis Johannis patris predicti Domini Regis coram ipso Domino Rege Johanne apud Lexington Inter Acharium quondam Abbatem de Burgo sancti Petri predecessorem ejusdem Abbatis de Burgo petentem et Henricum quondam Abbatem de Croyland predecessorem predicti Abbatis de Croyland tenentem Et unde Idem Abbas de Croyland questus fuit quod predictus Abbas de Burgo contra predictum finem Impedivit ipsum per homines et servientes suos quominus potuit capere stallagia et facere Attachiamenta Infra quamdam partem ville de Croyland que est infra predictas divisas Et similiter quod custodivit quendam pontem in Croyland infra predictum mariscum quominus ipse et homines sui potuerunt habere transitum suum cum averijs suis ultra predictum pontem. Et similiter quod extirpavit et eradicavit arbores plantatas in predicto marisco Et quod cepit averia ipsius Abbatis de Croyland et hominum suorum de Croyland et de Peykirk in predicto marisco contra predictum finem Et unde placitum finis factus summonitus fuit inter eos in eadem curia Scilicet quod predictus Abbas de Burgo concessit pro se et successoribus suis\* et ecclesia sua predicta quod predictus Abbas de Croyland et successores sui de cetero sine contradictione ipsius Abbatis de Burgo vel successorum suorum vel hominum vel ballivorum suorum libere possint capere stallagia et thelonea et omnia attachiamenta facere ubique in predicta villa de Croyland tam in predicta parte ville de Croyland que sita fuit inter predictas metas die quo hec concordia facta fuit quam alibi in eadem villa Ita quod predictus Abbas de Burgo et successores sui de cetero nulla attachiamenta poterunt facere in eadem villa de Croyland nec in aliqua parte ejusdem ville nec aliquid aliud in ea capere vel exigere nec eciam aliquod impedimentum predicto Abbati de Croyland vel successoribus suis vel hominibus suis vel eorum averijs ad predictum pontem facere in perpetuum Et preterea Idem Abbas de Burgo concessit pro se et successoribus suis et ecclesia sua predicta quod ipsi nec homines sui poterunt aliquam feriam sive vendicionem averiorum vel aliquorum aliorum levare vel habere extra predictam villam quamdiu nundine de Croyland duraverint per quam Idem Abbas de Croyland vel successores sui aliquid possint amittere in predictis nundinis suis de Croyland in perpetuum Et pro hac concessione fine et concordia Ricardus de Hottot ad peticionem predicti Abbatis de Croyland concessit predicto Abbati de Burgo et ecclesie sue predictam unam Marcatam Redditus in Folkesworthe percipiendum annuatim eidem Abbati de Burgo et successoribus suis et ecclesie sue predictae per manus Roberti de Weston et Ricardi fratris Ailrici de omnibus tenementis que ipse Robertus et Ricardus tenuerunt in villenagium de predicto Ricardo Hottot in eadem villa die quo hec concordia facta fuit et per manus omnium aliorum que in posterum tenementa illa tenebunt ad duos terminos in perpetuum scilicet medietatem (*sic*) ad festum Sancti Michaelis et alteram medietatem ad Pascha salvis eidem Ricardo de Hottot et hereditibus suis omnibus alijs servicijs de eisdem tenementis provenientibus Hec concordia facta fuit inter eos salvis eidem Abbati de Burgo et successoribus suis et ecclesie sue predictae et predicto Abbati de Croyland et successoribus suis et ecclesie sue predictae omnibus alijs articulis in priori fine inter predecessores predictorum Abbatum de predicta terra et marisco confecto contentis.

\* In margin, N(otate) pro Abbate de Croyland.

† In margin, N(otate) hic.



## (III).

Convencio inter utrosque Abbates Sub Sigillo Abbatis et Conventus de Burgo de commodis in marisco Abbati de Croylande et ejus Conventui concessis et de parte ville de Croylande.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Robertus dei gratia Abbas Burgi et ejusdem loci Conventus eternam in domino salutem Noverit universitas vestra nos ad decus et reverentiam vicine ecclesie de Croylande ad petitionem dilectorum fratrum et amicorum nostrorum Abbatis et Conventus ecclesie predictae concessisse eisdem unam placeam marisci nostri de Eya que placea continetur inter bundas subscriptas videlicet a ponte de Croyland per aquam de Neen usque ad locum qui dicitur Fynset et ab illo loco usque ad Greynes et a Greynes usque ad Folwardstakyng et deinde usque ad Southlake ubi Southlake cadit in Weland que est divisio inter Mariscos nostros de Peykirke et de Eya et ab hinc per aquam de Weland usque ad predictum pontem de Croylande ubi Weland et Neen adinvicem se conjungunt Ita quod\* possint in placea predicti marisci subscripta proficua percipere et perhenniter possidere Vidilicet turbas fodere et sub turbas argillam et sabulum capere et falcare Ros et glagellum et byndingham Ita tamen quod non moveant averia qui ibi fuerint a pastura sua et quod ipsi et homines sui de Croyland quieti sint de herbagio† in predicta placea predicti marisci Volumus etiam et concedimus quod aqua de Weland de Southlake usque ad pontem de Croyland et Aqua de Neen a ponte de Croylande usque ad Nomanneslondhyrne sit Abbati et conventui predictis‡ piscaria separabilis in eternum Similiter concedimus quantum in nobis est quod pars ville de Croylande citra pontem versus Burgum que in predicta placea sita fuit et fossatis et haijs circumcincta die quo presens scriptum fuit confectum de cetero sit respondens in omnibus Comitatu Lincolnensi cum villa et altera parte pontis in Comitatu Lincolnensi sine contradictione nostri vel successorum nostrorum Ita quod non licebit Abbati de Croylande vel successoribus suis vel hominibus suis de Croylande aliquid edificare extra haias et fossata predicta vel curias suas ampliare seu elongare vel aliquid sibi appropriare nisi de licencia nostra vel successorum nostrorum Quod si fecerint fiat inde justicia in Comitatu Northamptonensi secundum legem Regni et consuetudinem Volumus§ etiam quod placita et Hundreda nostra non teneantur ultra medietatem predictae placee et quod homines predictae ville non teneantur venire extra predicta fossata et hayas coram ballivis nostris ad Inquisitiones aliquas Jurata et recognitiones facienda pro aliquibus que ad coronam vel ad Officium Vicecomitis pertinent Abbas et Conventus de Croylande reddent singulis annis ecclesie nostre de Burgo quatuor petras cere In festo apostolorum Petri et Pauli In cujus rei testimonium Sigilla videlicet tam Abbatis quam conventus presentibus sunt appensa Acta sunt hec Anno ab Incarnatione domini Millesimo ducentesimo sedecimo.

(I). The agreement refers to a virgate of land in Peakirk, and to a portion of marsh land in what is now known as Borough Fen. At Fynset, Greynes, and Folwardstaking, three of the boundary places named, there were boundary crosses, of which portions remain to this day, as described and

\* In margin, N(otate).

† In margin, N(otate) eclam.

‡ In margin, N(otate) de parte ville Croylande et de piscaria.

§ In margin, N(otate) etiam quam Abbas de Burgo respicitur (?).

figured in Art. 402. Lexington, where the agreement was made, seems to be the place now called Laxton, in Nottinghamshire. It is conceded in the document that the land and marsh belong to the Abbot and Church of Burgh; and for this concession the Abbot and Convent of Burgh let them to the Abbot and Convent of Croyland and their successors on rendering customary service. These services were different in different parts. A virgate, it may be mentioned, was a measure of land that was not always constant. In some places it contained 18 acres, in others 36, or sometimes more. The tenant of the land held at the time by Reginald Faber had to plough one day in winter and one day in Lent; also to hoe for one day and to make hay for one day in the Abbot of Burgh's field in Maxey, with the help of the Abbot's men; also in autumn to mow half an acre of land, and bind up the corn, and set it in shocks; and all the foregoing at his own expense. Further for one day in autumn he was with one man to mow corn in the Abbot's field at Peakirk or Glinton, the Abbot supplying food; and if the Abbot did not supply food, the tenant need not mow later than *nona* (probably about 2 o'clock). The tenants of lands held by Gocelin, son of Godwin, William, son of Ralph, Averus, son of Alwold, Peter Palmer, William, son of Sewen, Walter, son of Reginald, and Reginald Carpenter, had to render the like services. In addition to these the tenant of the land held by Richard son of Alwericus was bound to plough twice in winter, and twice in Lent, so that altogether he had six days of ploughing at his own cost; and further to carry a cartload of wood from the marsh to the Abbot's hall at Burgh at Michaelmas. All the tenants were to attend the Abbot's hundred court, and to pay 6½d. a year for hide money, and to shew frankpledge to the Abbot or his bailiffs, and to watch with other men of the district at a fixed place between Michaelmas and Martinmas. The rent of the Abbot and Convent of Croyland was fixed at four pounds of wax. The Abbot and

Convent of Burgh were to have right of pasture in the marsh for their own cattle, and those of their men, and of any others they might send there, as well as the Abbot of Croyland and his men. The latter were without hindrance to be allowed to dig turf, and where they had so dug turf to take clay and gravel; also to reap in the marsh rushes and sedge and *glagellum et bindynghum*, but not to the disturbance of cattle grazing there. They might also cut twigs from all trees in the marsh. In Peakirk marsh, outside the bounds of the marsh previously defined, which seems to have belonged to the Abbot and Convent of Croyland, the Abbot and Convent of Burgh were to have corresponding rights.

(II). After reciting the foregoing fine the Abbot of Croyland complains that he and his men had been impeded in taking stallage and attachments in a certain part of Croyland within the limits named; also that the Abbot of Burgh had put a guard at a bridge to prevent the Croyland men from passing with their cattle; also that he had rooted up some trees planted in the marsh; and had also taken away some cattle belonging to the Abbot of Croyland and his men. The Abbot of Burgh undertook not to interfere any more, and the Abbot of Croyland should have his stallage, and tolls, and attachments, without hindrance; and he disclaimed all right of attachments for himself and his Convent; and would not hinder the approach to the bridge. Also he waived all right of selling cattle or anything else while Croyland fair lasted. In return for this concession the Abbot of Croyland granted a rent of one mark to be paid from certain tenements in Folks-worth, half to be paid at Michaelmas, and half at Easter.

(III). In this agreement the marsh already described is called a part of "our marsh of Eye." It recites the permission given to dig turf, &c. It grants to the Abbot of Croyland rights of fishing in the Welland from Southlake to Croyland bridge, and in the Nene from Croyland bridge to Nomanslandhirne. That part of Croyland town on the Burgh

side of the bridge, which was within the bounds of the marsh, and marked out with dikes and hedges, was to be considered part of the county of Lincoln. But the Abbot of Croyland was not to erect any buildings outside the said dikes and hedges.

The present boundary line between Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, seems to me to follow exactly the bounds marked out in the above documents. The marsh described may be said to be that portion of Lincolnshire which lies south of the old Welland and Nene rivers. I should judge it to contain about 2000 acres.

Ed.

**851.—Colonel Moore, C.B.**—We deeply regret to announce the death of our correspondent\* Colonel Charles Thomas John Moore, C.B., F.S.A., D.L., J.P., which took place on his 73rd birthday, 17 May, 1900. He was a native of the Fens, having been born at Moulton Vicarage, where his father, the Rev. Charles Moore, was Curate to Dr. Maurice Johnson. Dr. William Moore, elder brother of Charles, subsequently held the living of Moulton, as well as Spalding; and the Colonel's father retained the curacy of Moulton. A few months after the birth of Colonel Moore, his father was appointed Master of Moulton Grammar School. After some years he left the neighbourhood, returning in 1859 as Rector of Wyberton, where he died at a great age. He was also Chaplain to the Earl of Northesk. Colonel Moore was consequently first cousin to the late well known antiquary Prebendary Edward Moore. He was High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1856. At his death he was Chairman of the Holland Quarter Sessions, of the Boston Board of Guardians, of the Boston Rural District Councils, and of the Holland County Council. He became Companion of the Bath on the occasion of the Queen's Jubilee in 1887.

He was an enthusiastic antiquary, and took great interest in all local history and antiquities. The Editor hoped before long

\* Art. 688, Frampton and Kirton; Art. 697, Algarkirk; Art. 816, Roos and Cromwell Families.

to have prepared, with his assistance, a paper upon the remarkable ruin at Kirton ; and as lately as 1 April last he received a letter from the Colonel in which he regretted that the state of his health did not permit of his fixing an early day for a proposed visit to the ruin, to which he kindly said he was looking forward, and spoke of making arrangements for a future joint inspection, when "we must have a long talk over the ruin."

The family claim descent from the Chancellor, Sir Thomas More, and bear the same arms.

Ed.

852.—**Dr. Dodd at Bourne.**—Although chiefly remembered for his forgery and tragic death, Dr. Dodd was a man of letters who published many works, and deserves to be considered eminent for his literary merits. He was born at Bourne in 1729. He was of Clare Hall, Cambridge; B.A., 1749; M.A., 1759; and LL.D., 1766. In London he obtained some reputation as a popular preacher, and was made Prebendary of Brecon; and he held also the livings of Hockcliffe, co. Beds., and of Wing, co. Bucks. He attempted to obtain the living of S. George's, Hanover Square, by bribery; for which he was struck off the list of Chaplains to the King. One of his publications was a translation of Callimachus. Among the papers of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding is an original bill containing his proposals for printing this translation, and also his letter to Maurice Johnson, the President of the Society, inviting subscriptions. The letter is this:—

Sir

I have long been in hopes of receiving your kind promise, which I shall now be extremely glad of, as I leave y<sup>e</sup> Country next Week, & intend getting it engraved soon as I get to Town. If you wou'd favor me with Mr. Bells original Drawing, I wou'd take particular Care of it, & see it return'd immediately when I had done with it: but if you cannot so far oblige me, I trust I shall not be disappointed of y<sup>e</sup> Copy. Doctor Mason of Trinity sent me Word Mr. Bell left no Papers to y<sup>er</sup> Library: but imagin'd Mr<sup>rs</sup>. Marshall cou'd inform me of them: to whom I applied, but she knew no more, than that she thought They might be at Trinity: I have again enquir'd there, but can not find them. Since I saw you I have

determin'd to give over & above what I propos'd, some of y<sup>e</sup> most select Epigrams of Callimachus, & if you'll look at y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>. (in Spanheim's Edition) you'll see I shall be oblig'd to you for a Commentary on it: for which no body is better capacitated than yourself: Nay if you w<sup>d</sup>. favor me with a Translation of it, I shou'd think it an Honor in my Work: at least I shall hope for y<sup>r</sup>. Lines from Oppian &c.

An Answer to this by y<sup>e</sup> Bearer wou'd be highly agreeable, however I beg y<sup>e</sup> favor of hearing on Saturday at furthest. I am w<sup>t</sup>. all proper Compliments to y<sup>r</sup>. worthy & agreeable family

8<sup>r</sup>

y<sup>r</sup>. most oblig'd &  
sincere hble. Serv

William Dodd.

If there is any thing in my power I cou'd oblige you in, in Town, you may command me: I shall be found at M<sup>rs</sup>. Dodds in Frith-Street, Soho.

I have made free to send you a few Receipts, y<sup>t</sup>. if you shou'd by chance meet with any one willing to subscribe to Callimachus, you may be so obliging as to manage it for me: I have no acquaintance of weight enough w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Johnson in Spalding, to transact such an affair, or I shou'd not have troubled him, but I know his good-nature & readiness to promote Literature. W.D.

Bourne.

Oct. 28. 1750.

I have sent y<sup>e</sup> Head of Milton I spoke of: tis indeed too bad to send, but if I can procure a better it shall be at y<sup>r</sup>. Service.

The "Proposals" according to an endorsement in the President's writing, were "Read at the Instance of the Pr. by y<sup>e</sup> Secr." on the 1st of November; and on the 8th it was proposed that the Society should subscribe for the work. The word "repeald" at the end of the endorsement seems to shew that the Society declined to subscribe.

Cambridge, June 1. 1750.

*Proposals for Printing by Subscription,*

THE

HYMNS of CALLIMACHUS

Translated from the Greek,

With NOTES critical and explanatory,

To which will be added

The *Coma Berenices* of CALLIMACHUS,

Six Hymns of ORPHEUS,

and THEOCRITVS his Excomium of *Ptolemy*.

By WILLIAM DODD, B.A. of *Clare-Hall* in Cambridge.

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ΑΘΑΝΑΤΟΥΣ ΜΕΝ ΠΡΩΤΑ ΘΕΟΥΣ.

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#### CONDITIONS.

- I. The Work will be printed in One handsome Volume, Quarto; adorn'd with a beautiful Frontispiece, and each Hymn with elegant Head and Tail-Pieces, design'd and engrav'd by the best Masters.

- II. The Price to Subscribers will be Half a Guinea; Five Shillings to be paid at the time of subscribing, and the remainder on delivery of the Book, which is now ready for the Press.—There will be some printed on Royal Paper, if subscrib'd for, Price Sixteen Shillings; Half a Guinea to be paid at the time of subscribing, and the remainder on delivery of the Book.

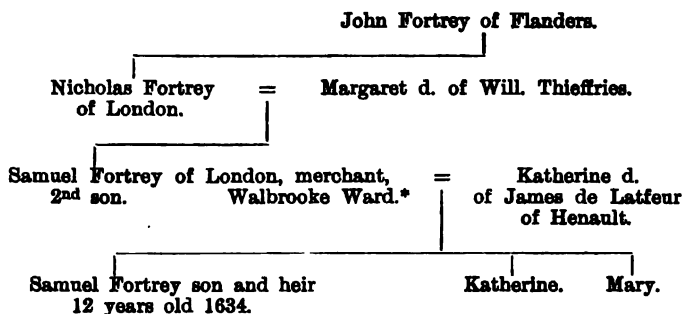
- III. A List of the Subscribers Names will be printed.

Subscriptions are taken in by Mr. *Thuribourn* and Mr. *Morris* in Cambridge; Mr. *Fletcher* and Mr. *Barrett* in Oxford; Mr. *Jolliffe* in St. James's Street, Mr. *Whiston* in Fleetstreet, Mr. *Dodd* in Ave-Mary Lane, Mr. *Nourse* in the Strand, Mr. *Ward* against the Royal Exchange, Mr. *Owen* near Temple-Bar, and Mr. *Cooper* in Pater-Noster Row, London; Mr. *Pote* at Eton; Mr. *Hildyard* at York; Mr. *Lord* at Wakefield; Mr. *Wood* at Lincoln; Mr. *Rogers* at Stamford; Mr. *Cook* at Uppingham; Mr. *Greenville* at Winchester; Mr. *Leake* and Mr. *Frederick* at Bath; Mr. *Flaaton* at Canterbury; Mr. *Clay* at Daventry; Mr. *Warren* at Birmingham; Mr. *Chase* at Norwich; Mr. *Craighton* at Ipswich; Mr. *Lee* at Lynn; Mr. *Eaton* at Yarmouth; Mr. *Kincaid* at Edinburgh; Mr. *Barry* at Glasgow; Mr. *Faulkland* and Mr. *Watson* at Dublin.

It is well known that Dr. Samuel Johnson wrote petitions and made various efforts to obtain pardon for Dr. Dodd, after his condemnation: but he had no acquaintance with him, and they only once actually met. And Dr. Johnson's efforts were prompted by his humane disposition, and not by any admiration for the unhappy convict, whose life and character were very far from being consistent with his profession. At his death, 27 June, 1777, Dodd was in his 49th year. ED.

853.—**Fortrey of Byal Fen.**—The religious reformers of the Spanish Netherlands were styled "les Gueux." The oppression of a foreign government drove many to England, and of these were the Fortrey's or de la Forterie's of South Brabant.\* For ship-owners engaged with foreign trade it was not difficult to transfer their wealth; hence they held a good position when they settled in London during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. At the Heralds' Visitation of London, in 1634, Samuel Fortrey recorded his descent and enrolled the armorials borne by his ancestors.

\* There is a full account of "Les Huguenots et les Gueux" of Flanders in Keroy de Lettenhove's (6 vols.) 1883, but without an index. The Iconoclasts of England were lambs in comparison to the Beldstormers of Flanders.



Thus Samuel the elder was a natural born subject of the King of England, but he was put in a schedule of Merchant Strangers to whom Privy Seals for a loan to the Crown were directed in 1626. To that royal demand he made the following excuse:—

To my Honourable friend Sr Robert Pye Knight Auditor of his Matyes Receipt.

Sir Robert Pye.

Having receaved yo<sup>r</sup> Worp<sup>s</sup> lre<sup>s</sup> w<sup>th</sup> a Privy Seale from his Mat<sup>y</sup>. I have thought it my duty to repaire unto you to give my awnswere wch is that I have alwayes ben ready to supply his Mat<sup>y</sup>. to the best of my power. I have parte in fower shipps wch have ben taken for his Mat<sup>y</sup>'s service whereof one of them (being called the Hector of Dover) was in his Matyes employment cast away and never yet receaved any recompence besydes I have had dyvers losses as well at sea as by reason of the general decay of trade as otherwyse, And in deede the somme of five hundred pound requyred of mee is more then my state coulde beare by much when it was at the best, much lesse am I able to spare it now after so many losses and crosses. Therefore I hope when his Mat<sup>y</sup> shall understand thus much he will out of his clemency and goodnesse accept of this my humble awnswere And so I remayne for ever

Yor humble servant

Kew this 22

Samuel Fortrey.

of August 1626.†

Mr. Fortrey resided in Dairy House on Kew Green. This property, acquired from Sir John Portman, and sold by William Fortrey in 1697, has been for a long period used as a residence by the Royal Family.

If Mr. Fortrey escaped the Crown loan, he was not so fortunate in 1643, when the Parliament established the Com-

\* Lord Mayor's certificate of strangers, 1618. Tower Ward. Samuel Fortrey, merchant stranger householder; aged about 52 years; born in Deuë (Douai) in the Kingdome of France; in England about 14 years; of the ch. of Eng; K. H. Armoriale: Argent three boars' heads coupes, sable. Crest, two wings indorsed, with crescent for 2nd son.

† S. P., Dom. Car. I. 35.



mittee for the Advance of Money. They borrowed £400 from him. That sum he computed to be  $\frac{1}{10}$  of his estate, and protested against further assessment. His son Samuel, who joined in his father's commerce, entered into the scheme for the drainage of the Great Level of the Fens. In 1650, he was residing at Oakington, or Hockington, Cambridgeshire.\* To him is ascribed the authorship of a pamphlet entitled:—

The History or Narrative of the Great Level of the Fens called Bedford Level with a map of the Level as drained, surveyed and described by Sir J. Moore K<sup>t</sup>, his late Maty's Surveyor General of his Ordnance. Postscript:—A true and natural description in verse of the Great Level of the Fens formerly writ by some ingenious hand.

The "Narrative" may have been written by Mr. Fortrey; he was one of the six Bailiffs of the Corporate Body created by the Bedford Level Act in 1668, in 1684 a Conservator and Surveyor of the Middle Level. Such a book may have been written by any man: but Samuel Fortrey's repute for commercial sagacity was national; and of this he has left a lasting proof in his treatise entitled "Englands Interest and Improvement." Sir Josiah Child,† the chairman of the East India Company, in his "New Discourse of Trade," 1670, endeavoured "to do right to the memory of the ingenious author of Englands Interest who hath done more for his country than would have been the gift of some millions of pounds sterling into the public exchequer." Indeed the treatise shows that Mr. Fortrey had grasped the basis of the Imperial policy of England, which would be a small affair without her foreign trade.

\* Oakington Parish Register:—

1650. Trevor d. Sam. Fortrey esq. and Theodory was bapt May 2.

1663. William. 1666. James. 1660. Elizabeth.

Mr. Fortrey married Theodora dau. of — Josceline of Forrel's Hall, co. Essex. His eldest son Samuel, of Byal Fen, J.P., married Eliz. Bigg, of Grafton, co. Hunts. There is a memorial of him on the north side of Mepal Church;

S. P. D.

Near this place lyeth buried the body of  
Samuel Fortrey esq of Byal Fen in this parish.

ob. 10 Feb. 1688, æt. 38.

Samuel, his father, died in 1681.

† 1630—1699. Sir Josiah, who "by his great annual presents could command both at Court and in Westminster Hall" describes the commercial laws of England as "a heap of nonsense."

The treatise is a post 8vo. of 42 pages, and was printed at Cambridge in 1663.†

# ENGLANDS INTEREST

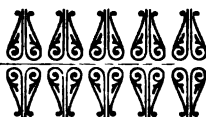
AND

## IMPROVEMENT

Consisting in the increase of the  
store, and trade of this  
Kingdom ;

BY

SAM. FORTREY *Esq.* one  
of the Gentlemen of his Majesties  
most Honourable Privy  
Chamber.



CAMBRIDGE.

Printed by *John Field*, Printer to the  
*University*. 1663.

† A second edition was published in 1673, and there have been five or six editions since. In 1886, the Political Economy Club issued a reprint in "Facts on Commerce."

The author had travelled much, but he found England to be more pleasant, healthful, fruitful, and temperate than any other country; the peace and security of the people greater than elsewhere. As King Charles II. said of our climate, there are more days in the year on which men could go about their business, and he preferred it. But there were many impediments to improvement, and these he indicates and proposes to remedy.

1. The great impediment to improvement is that men cannot make the best of their own lands. Let there be liberty for every man to enjoy his lands in severalty. Rents will be trebled; landlords inclose because tenants make better profits and pay more rent.

2. A plan to rival the taffeties, poudesoyes, and tabbies of Tours; the serges of Chalons and Picardy; the linen of Brittany and Normandy. Let the King be a pattern to his people and wear no bever, demicaster or felt hat from the city of Paris; let the Court change their French tailor and French stuff.

3. To encourage navigation to defeat the Hollander and Hamburger. Foreign trade will enable England to sell dear and buy cheap. Reform the Mint, and the gold standard, and stop the clipper by milling the silvered coins.

The author's remarks on restrictions on trading in corn are worth recalling:—

“Our care should therefore be to increase those things which are of least charge at home and greatest value abroad; and cattel may be of far greater advantage to us, then corn can be, if we might make the best profit of them; for that the profit we can make of any corn by exportation is much hindred by the plenty that neighbour countreys afford to that commodity, as good or better than we have any. Wherefore, could we employ our lands to any thing of more worth we could not want plenty of corn, though we had none of our own; for what we should increase in the room of it, of greater value by

exportation would not only bring us home as much corn as that land would have yielded but plenty of money to boot."

Of the three children of the elder Samuel, none but Samuel of Oakington and Byal Fen left progeny. The daughter Mary was married, in 1647, to Sir Thomas Trevor, of Leamington, Kt. and Bart.\* Of the three sons of the younger Samuel, the eldest pre-deceased his father, and James died, S.P., in 1719. His epitaph in Mepal church gives an account of his own life, and of his father's home in Byal Fen.

Near this place lie the remains of James Fortrey Esq. descended from an ancient stock in Brabant, which took asylum in England from the persecution of the Spaniards in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He was third son of Samuel Fortrey Esq. who, upon undertaking the drainage of the Bedford Level, erected a commodious habitation in Byall-fen, which, coming into his son's possession was by him enlarged with several convenient apartments, and with gardens and other improvements, so as to make it (in such a situation) the admiration of the time.† He was bred in courts and in camps; was page of honour to Mary of Modena, then Duchess of York; afterwards groom of the bedchamber to her husband King James II; major in the horseguards and at the same time commanded a troop in Lanier's regiment of horse. He would have followed his unhappy master's fortune in exile, but was forbidden by his commands, on account of his ill state of health: fidelity and gratitude forbade him to engage in the service of his successor. Having lived a favourite of Princes, he rather chose obscurity; and after residing some time as fellow-commoner at Queens' College in Cambridge passed the remainder of his days in retirement between Portugal and Byall-fen; at the last mentioned place he died the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August. 1719 in the 63 year of his age; loved lamented and honoured by all who knew him. He married the Right Honourable Lady Bellasis, Baroness of Osgodby,‡ in her own right, but left no issue.

William, the 2nd son, whose birth was in 1653, married the heiress of the Leicestershire Whalleys. In the churchyard of

\* Vicar Genl. Cant: 1647. July 16. Sir Thomas Trevor Kt. and bart: widr: 36 and Mary Fortrey of Oue co. Surrey. spr: 24 at Marlbone. Middx.—2ndly to Sir F. Compton of Hamerton, Hunts.

† This was the daughter named in the Visitation of 1634: another Mary, "about 28," was eldest daughter of Samuel of Byal Fen, who is described as of the Tower and makes the allegation as of Oakington, Cambs.

1680. March 12. Philip Parker of Evertou Suffolk bach. 20, and Mary Fortrey of Kew, co. Surrey spr: about 23. dau. of Sam. Fortrey of the Tower of London, esq. who consents; alleged by Samuel Fortrey of Hogginton co. Cambridge esq; at St. Giles or Gt. or Little St. Bartholomew London.

1689. Nov. 19. Will Bromley of Bagginton co. Warw: esq. widr: abt 26 and Mrs. Trevor Fortrey of St. Gyles in the Fields, Middx spr: above 21 with consent of her mother, her father dead, at St. Gyles afd.

1670. Oct 26. Grant to Saml. Fortrey of office of clerk of the delivery of Ordnance in the Tower, Minories, or other ordnance store.

† This house is referred to in *The Inundation*, l. 174. "At last his mansion Falls an unwieldy ruin to the ground." The house was near Mepal Bridge, built for lightness sake of stud work with turf between. See Art. 627, pp. 278, 280.

‡ Susan, Lady Bellasis widow of Sir H. Bellasis and dau. of Sir Willi. Armin of Osgotby.

Norton by Galby, Leicestershire,\* at the end of the chancel, is his tomb, with this epitaph:—

Gulielmo Fortrey, armig<sup>o</sup> qui vixit annos  
LXVIII. ob. MDCCXXII; et Annæ conjugī  
(Gulielmi Whalley, armig<sup>i</sup>, filiæ) quæ  
vixit annos LXVIII. ob. MDCCXXXIII.  
parentibus charissimis filius fecit.  
Nec charus æque nec superstes  
Integer.

Think, as softly sad you tread  
Above the venerable dead,  
Time was like thee they life possest,  
And time shall be that thou shalt rest.

To William succeeded his son William, whose death happened in 1783.† He was very charitable. Norton by Galby church was his gift and his monument, for the blank space on his father's tomb was not filled with any epitaph for the son.

“Tumulum si quæris, circumspice.”

L. GACHES.

**854.—Woodston or Woodstone? (823)**—The arguments in favour of the former spelling for the name of this place brought forward in a previous number have been submitted to the Ordnance Department, but we regret to hear without convincing the authorities of the advisability of spelling names of places according to ancient practice and etymological accuracy. By desire of the Director General, Lt. Col. Hellard, R.E., writes to say “that further consideration has been given to the subject of the name ‘Woodstone’ and that although the derivation of the name that you support may no doubt be correct, the Ordnance Survey has to be guided very largely by local usage in such matters rather than by historical interest, and as local

\* In the Parish Register;—

Burials. Will: Fortrey Esq. June 18, 1732.

Ann. Fortrey widow. Novr. 21, 1733.

Will: Fortrey Esq. Dec. 11, 1733.

Baptisms. James son of Will. Fortrey. gent. by Anne his wife bapt. Feb. 17 <sup>1699</sup>

Elizabeth Fortrey bapt. April 29, 1701. <sup>1700.</sup>

† Nicholls' *History of Leicestershire*. Mr. W. Fortrey's death was caused by an accident. *Cent. Mag.*, 1783. His nephew, Rev. Hy. Greene, M.A., succeeded to his estate. At Rolleston Hall there were portraits of the Whalleys and Fortreys.

custom is unanimous in this case, the form Woodstone must be adhered to. It is regretted therefore that it is not possible to comply with your wishes in the matter."

It seems accordingly that the rule now is that a manifest error, if it can hold its own for a hundred years, is to be made permanent. This has not always been the practice. There was a new survey of the parishes in the northern part of Northamptonshire in 1882 and the following years, and a six-inch scale was published in 1886, or early in 1887. The editor of this journal wrote to the Department and pointed out three errors that occurred in the Map of Maxey parish. One, as it happens, was the addition of a final *e* to the name of the adjoining parish of Helpston. One was a confusion in the names of two houses. And one has considerable bearing upon the matter now in question, for it involved the correction of an error that had been repeated over and over again. In Bridges' history of the county Maxey Church is said to be dedicated to S. Mary. Nearly all subsequent accounts have copied this statement. The Vicar however discovered, by the irrefragable testimony of ancient deeds, that the true dedication of the church was to S. Peter. On a visit to the parish on 18 May, 1887, Lt. Col. Macpherson called upon the Vicar to discuss his suggested corrections. The Vicar exhibited the ancient documents on which he relied, one being dated as early as 1405 ; and the result was that in the map of large scale issued in 1888, all the errors pointed out were corrected.

There is a notice of the number of *Fenland Notes and Queries* which contained the former article of this subject in *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, vol. iv., p. 36. With the observation in this notice, "Certainly ancient custom should govern the spelling of places as a rule," we thoroughly agree.

If an ancient town, or "ton," is altered into "stone," because it makes a prettier looking word, we may expect before long to have the King's town, Kingston-on-Thames, altered

to Kingstone; and then people will say it derives its name from the ancient stone, believed to be the coronation stone of some Saxon King, which is preserved in a railed enclosure in the Market-place. And we may expect S. Botolph's town in the Fens to be altered into his stone, and the place spelt Bostone. And so in time we may get to Dalstone, Bryanstone Square, Eustone Square, and Haggerstone.

In Woodston itself is a new road named, after a popular statesman of this century, Palmerston Road. It will no doubt be gratifying to the authorities who persist in misspelling the name of Woodston, to find that some persons, following the example of their superiors, have actually taken to spelling this road Palmerstone Road. Perhaps the Dean and Chapter of Westminster will see to the alteration being made on the statesman's monument in the Abbey.

The following story, told by Camden in his *Remains* (ed. 1674, p. 358), may be thought appropriate.

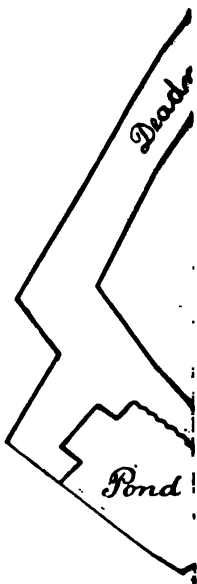
King Henry VIII., finding fault with the disagreement of preachers, would often say, 'Some are too stiff in their old *Mumpsimus*, and others too busie and curious in their new *Sumpsimus*;' haply borrowing these phrases from that which Master Pace, his secretary, reporteth in his book, *De Fructu Doctrinae*, of an old priest in that age, which always read in his portass *Mumpsimus*, *Domine*, for *Sumpsimus*: whereof when he was admonished, he said that he had used *Mumpsimus* thirty years, and would not leave his old *Mumpsimus* for their new *Sumpsimus*.  
ED.

**855.—Latin Lines on Crowland.**—On a late visit to the Bodleian Library I copied some Latin lines on Crowland, which are said (MSS. Ashmole, 784) to have been "found upon a stone digged up in a°. 1655." No doubt these have already appeared in print, but they will be new to many of our readers. I subjoin a very free translation.

In Hollandia sic notanda  
Stat Crowlandia memoranda.  
Ibi Vinum, tale quale,  
Ibi Fenum gladiale,  
Ibi Lectum lapidale,  
Ibi Vade, sine Vale.

In Holland, in the fenny lands,  
Be sure you mark where Crowland stands.  
Crowland wine is but so-so;  
Sedge instead of hay doth grow;  
A bed like stone whereon to lie,—  
And so begone, without "good-bye."

R. M. G.



PLAN SHEWING  
CASTLE AND





**356.—Wisbech Castle.**—An Act of 1793, 33 Geo. III., c. 53, empowered the Bishop of Ely to sell the ancient building known as the Castle of Wisbech S. Peter's. The Bishop at that time exercised a jurisdiction of gaol delivery within the Isle of Ely, separate from the County of Cambridge. The castle had been for centuries used as the common gaol: and during the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. it was used for the incarceration of the Jesuits and seminary priests.\* The old building was purchased by Thurloe, secretary to Oliver Cromwell, when the Bishops' lands were sold. He erected on the site of the keep a mansion, designed by Inigo Jones, after the manner of Longthorpe Hall, near Peterborough. This was demolished in 1794, when Mr. Medworth purchased the castle and premises. The house stood on the space marked "Wisbech Castle" on the plan annexed to the conveyance. A copy of the plan is given herewith. There is a good engraving of the house in the appendix to Bentham's *History of Ely Cathedral*.† Secretary Thurloe is depicted walking up the steps.

The gaol of the Isle was afterwards at Ely. It was abolished in 1836, when an Act, 6 and 7 Will. IV., c. 87, extinguished the secular jurisdiction of the Bishop. A separate Commission of the Peace is still issued for the Isle of Ely; but the Isle is included in the Commission of Gaol Delivery of the County.

The following deed gives an account of the sale of the castle and premises. It is taken from the Recovery Rolls (Common Pleas), 35 Geo. III. Hilary A.D. 1795.

Joseph Medworth came the thirty first day of January in this same term before Sir Giles Rooke Kt. one of the justices of His Majesty's Court of Common Pleas at Westminster and acknowledged this writing following to be his deed required the same to be inrolled and it is enrolled in these words:—

This Indenture made the fifth day of December in the thirty fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the third by the grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King defender of the Faith &c.

\* In 1316, Richard Lambert, of Lenne (Lynn), merchant, brought an action against William le Bolewre and others for a conspiracy to imprison him. He had been attached by the Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, "and thrown in the depth of the gaol of Wysebech among thieves, where by toads and other venomous vermin he was so inhumanly gnawn that his life was despaired of."

† 2nd Ed. Supplement, p. 77. In W. Watson's *History of Wisbech*, 1837, there is a copy of this picture.

and in the year of our Lord 1794 Between the honorable and right reverend father in God James Lord Bp. of Ely of the one part and Joseph Medworth of the parish of St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey in the Borough of Southwark in the county of Surrey builder of the other part Whereas by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the 33<sup>rd</sup> year of the reign of his present Ma<sup>y</sup> entitled an Act to enable the Lord Bp of Ely to sell the castle of Wisbech St. Peter's in the Isle of Ely and County of Cambridge and the gardens and appurts thereunto belonging and for applying the money to arise from such sale in manner therein mentioned Reciting that the said James Lo Bp. of Ely was in right of his see of Ely seized of a certain ancient mansion or tenement called the castle of or in Wisbech St. Peter's in the Isle of Ely in the Cy of Camb. with the scite bldgs gardens and appu<sup>ts</sup> thereunto belonging the whole containing by estimacon five acres of ground or thereabouts And further reciting that the said mansion or tenement bldgs or gardens were and for many years then last past had been in a ruinous state and as the town of Wisbech afs<sup>d</sup> was improving and likely to increase in its trade and populousness it was apprehended that many persons would be willing to purchase the fee simple and inheritance of the said ground and premises at a very advantageous price and that if power was given for that purpose and for investing the monies thence arising in the purchase of other estates to be settled in lieu of the same premises and to the same use it would tend not only to the convenience of the town of Wisbech aforesaid where buildings were wanted but to the improvement of the revenues of the said see which were then but little benefitted by the premises at Wisbech; but inasmuch as the purposes afs<sup>d</sup> could not be effected without the aid and authority of Parliament it was therefore enacted that from and after the first day of June 1793 it should be lawful for the said James Lord Bp of Ely and his successors in the said see of Ely for the time being and he and they was and were thereby authorized and empowered to sell and dispose of and grant and convey to any person or persons who shall be willing to become the pchser or purchasers thereof and his her and their heirs and assigns either together or in parcels and either by public sale or private contract all or any part or parts of the said ancient mansion or tenement called Castle of or in Wisbech St. Peters and the scite thereof and the buildings gardens and grounds of or belonging to the said Castle and premises for the most money and best price or prices that could or might be reasonably had and gotten for the same which money should be paid into the Bank in the manner and for the purposes thereafter mentioned And it was further enacted that the monies which should or might arise by sale of the said premises or any part thereof should as conveniently might be be laid out by the said Lo. Bp of Ely or his successors in the said see with the approval of the Court of Chancery as thereafter mentioned in the purchase of freehold or copyhold messuages lands tents or heredit<sup>s</sup> so to be purchased as afs<sup>d</sup> should be thereupon immediately settled conveyed surrendered and assured into and to the use of the then Lo. Bp of Ely and his successors in the s<sup>d</sup> see of Ely for ever and should from the time of such conveyance be annexed to and for ever called part of the said see And it was further enacted and declared that the purchaser or pchrs of all or any part of the premises thereby authorized to be sold should pay his her or their purchase money into the Bank of England in the name and with the privity of the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery to be placed to his account "Ex parte the Bp of Ely" pursuant to the method prescribed by the Act of the 12<sup>th</sup> year of his late Ma<sup>y</sup> King George the 1<sup>st</sup>. and the general rules and orders of the said Court and without fee or reward according to the Act of the 12<sup>th</sup>. year of his late Ma<sup>y</sup> K. George the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the certificate or certificates of the said Accountant General of the payment of such purchase money together with the receipt or receipts

of the cashier or cashiers of the Bank thereunto annexed and therewith filed in the Register office of the said Court of Chancery should at all times be a good and effectual discharge to such pchser or pchrsers as afs<sup>d</sup> and his her and their heirs exors admrs and assigns for so much of the said pchse money for which such certificate or certificates and receipt or receipts should be given and that after filing such certificate or certificates and receipt or receipts the s<sup>d</sup> pchser or pchrsers and his her and their respective heirs exors admrs and assigns should not be liable to see to the application nor be answerable or accountable for any loss misapplication or nonapplication of such money or any part thereof. And whereas the s<sup>d</sup> James Lo. Bp of Ely caused the said heredit and premises to be put up to sale by public auction at the Rainbow Coffee house in Cornhill London on Wednesday the thirteenth day of Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1793 in six lots at which sale the said Joseph Medworth was the highest bidder for the whole of the s<sup>d</sup> six lots at several sums of money amounting together to the sum of £2305 and he the s<sup>d</sup> Jos. Medworth was accordingly allowed and declared to be the pchser of the inheritance in fee simple free from incumbrances of the said heredit and premises comprised in the said six lots at the said price or sum of £2305. Now this indenture witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of £2305 of lawful money of G<sup>t</sup>. Britain paid into the Bank of England by the said Jos. Medworth in the names and with the privity of the Accountant General of the said Court of Chancery pursuant to the direction of the said Act of Parliament the payment of which s<sup>d</sup> sum of £2305 into the Bank as afs<sup>d</sup>. appears by the said Acct. Gen<sup>l</sup>. certificate and the receipt of one of the cashiers of the Bank thereunto annexed and therewith filed in the register office of the said court respectively bearing date the 3<sup>d</sup> of Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1794 he the said James Lo Bp of Ely in pursuance and by force and virtue of the power and authority to him given by the said recited Act of Parl<sup>t</sup>. and of all and every other power and powers authority and authorities in any wise enabling him in this behalf and in exercise and execution thereof respectively Hath granted bargained sold disposed of and conveyed and by these presents doth grant bargain sell dispose of and convey unto the said Joseph Medworth his heirs and assigns All that the ancient Mansion or tenement called the castle of Wisbech of or in Wisbech St. Peters in the s<sup>d</sup>. Isle of Ely and County of Camb. with the buildings thereunto belonging and all those lands and grounds gardens and appurts thereunto belonging and also all that the ancient wall which nearly encompasses the s<sup>d</sup>. heredit and premises the said premises containing in the whole by estimation five acres of ground or thereabouts and which said heredit and premises are more particularly delineated in the plan thereof drawn in the margin of these presents together with all ways paths passages waters watercourses easements and appurts whatsoever to the said ancient mansion or tenement heredit and premises belonging or in any wise appertaining to or with the same or any part thereof commonly or usually demised used held enjoyed or occupied or accepted reputed described taken or known as part parcel or member thereof or any part thereof and the reversion or reversions remainder or remainders rents issues and profits of the said ancient mansion house heredit and premises hereinbefore granted bargained sold or mentioned or intended so to be and every part thereof and all the estate right title interest inheritance use trust property possession benefit claim and demand whatsoever of him the said James Lord Bp of Ely of in or to out of the same ancient mansion house and hereditament and premises and every part and parcel thereof To have and to hold the s<sup>d</sup> ancient mansion house or tenement heredit and all and singular other the premises hereinbefore granted bargained and sold or expressed or intended so to be with the appurts thereto belonging unto the said Jos. Medworth his heirs and assigns to the only proper use and behoof of the said Joseph

Medworth his heirs and assigns for ever and the said James Lo. Bp of Ely doth hereby for himself his heirs exors and admrs covenant promise and declare to and with the s<sup>d</sup>. Joseph Medworth his heirs and assigns that he the said James Lo Bp. of Ely hath not at any time heretofore made done committed or executed or willingly or knowingly suffered any act deed matter or thing whereby or by reason or means whereof the said mansion or tenement gardens grounds hereditis and premises hereinbefore granted bargained and sold or mentioned or intended so to be or any part thereof as is can shall or may be impeached charged or encumbered in title charge estate or otherwise howsoever.

In witness whereof the s<sup>d</sup> parties to this present have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year 1<sup>st</sup> above written.

L.G.

**857.—Low Fen Bill Hall (828, 841).**—I send some notes on a few of the words and phrases met with in the two articles above.

Coy (p. 284) is simply decoy shortened. So, Fleet Coy.

The Coy Farm at Gorefield was the site of a decoy. See Vol.

II., p. 59, for register of burial of a man who died "at the Coye."

Bred in a mill (ib.). Windmills were used for pumping water off the land. This was facetiously termed "grinding water." In some cases the lower part of the mill was converted into a dwelling for the attendant. In the lower districts fifty years ago, when natural drainage failed, some farmers used waterwheels worked by horses, and sling scoops. Clapper claw (ib.) is said to be a corruption of "clasp and claw." A wounded coot attempts to defend itself in this way, lying on its back. Owls will do the same.

Standing upright to row (ib.). To stand upright in a gunner's boat and push it along with a sprit (see Art. 720), was far more difficult than many would imagine. The boats were very light, for convenience of portage over banks, &c., and constructed merely to carry the gunner (Fen term for fowler) and his large fowling-piece, and so were very liable to upset.

Crowning of Jacks (ib.). During severe frosts pike could frequently be seen under the clear ice, and could be followed about till they were tired. Then a hole was cut above them to which they came for air, and they were easily taken.

This was called "crowning." The holes thus made for taking fish rendered the fen drains dangerous for skaters at dusk. Rabbits are "crowned" by listening on the surface of the ground and then digging down to the burrow.

Spring nets (ib.) for ruff and reeve were clap-nets. It should be borne in mind that these birds were caught alive, and fed for the table, chiefly on bread and milk. They were very tame birds. I have not seen or heard of any in this district for many years.

Cutting tracks (ib.). It was not uncommon to have two long scythe blades, welded together and driven into a long handle, fastened behind a boat, or worked by an assistant, by which a track was cut in the weeds about a yard wide. Along this the fish could swim with greater freedom. In the track thus made "bonnets," or "bownets," were placed. These were about 6 feet long and 2 feet in diameter, and supplied with a flue or trap at each end.

Rudd (ib.) is a fish very like a roach, but rather stouter, having red eyes. It is very common in some parts.

Sike (ib.) is a stream, usually dry in summer.

Moulted drakes (ib.). When moulting the birds are sometimes unable to fly. I have heard of their being run down and caught by dogs. I have known water-rails to be caught in the same way, when they have been forced on to the dry high lands by sudden floods.

Hingles and sprinks (ib.). Snares made with a horsehair loop and willow spring, for catching snipe, &c.

Trammels, hopnets, and teanings (ib.). These were various kinds of nets for taking fish. One kind of trammel was a very loose-hanging net with fine mesh, set before another with large mesh made of coarse strong cord. With little force the fine net was forced through the large meshes of the coarse net, thus forming a bag in which the fish was secured. A net of the same kind was used for taking hares alive, for coursing. Hares thus taken have been sold for as much as

10s. each, exclusive of cost of catching. Hopnets are probably stop-nets, placed across a river or drain at a distance in front of the drag-net, to prevent the fish escaping.

Slake (ib.) Probably a poisonous water-plant was so called.

There is one plant said to cause irritation to the skin of boys bathing when they get among it. In the Commission of Sewers "slake" is the word used.

Burwell . . . seed wheat (p. 325). Mr. Clovers, from whom a certain kind of red wheat had the name of Clovers' Red, lived at Burwell. When young I had some dealings with him. He had a room for business at the Angel Hotel, Peterborough, on the first day of the October fair.

Clay-Hithe Penn (ib.). This was the dock pen, for lowering lighters or barges.

Dr. Mason (ib.) was a bone-setter who lived at Boston. One of the same name, and I believe of the same family, now resides at Wisbech. During the operation of reducing a fracture an "ill face" was a *sine qua non*.

For "poy" (p. 326) see Vol. III., p. 171. I am familiar with the proverb quoted p. 326, which I know in this form :—

A hammer and a beetle  
Spells our church steeple.

A beetle is a large wooden hammer for driving stakes. This version makes sense of the first two words of the second line; but the proverb, if it is anything more than a meaningless jingle, still needs explanation.

Crown-net (p. 328) is usually called in the Fens a cast-net. It is a long net about 6 feet deep, having heavy sinkers on the bottom edge, and a line threaded in the top. There is great art in casting this net over a school of fish. (A school of fish was an expression once in very common use; probably a corruption of shoal.\*) Crown-nets can only be successfully used in streams free from weeds.

S. EGAR.

\* In the pilehard fishery in Cornwall the vast shoals of fish are known as "scules." It will be noticed that at p. 328 a "crown-net" is described as being of wicker-work.—Ed.

**858.—Wilsthorpe Church.**—Situated at the extreme edge of the Fen district, just on the border as given in the map in Miller's *Hand-Book to the Fenland*,\* is the little church of Wilsthorpe. It is far from any main road and very little known. In itself it is of no great interest; but it contains one ancient sepulchral effigy, and one solitary inscription, which are worth recording.

The church is dedicated to S. Faith. Two other churches only in Lincolnshire are said to have this dedication. There was another also, now destroyed, at Lincoln. According to the inscription given below, the present building was erected by Mr. Edward Curtis. There was an ancient church, situated a little further to the west, which was pulled down in 1715. The church built in its place was altered, and rendered a little more ecclesiastical in character, under the auspices of the late Dean of Stamford, the Very Rev. E. R. Mantell, who was Rector of Gretford, of which place Wilsthorpe is a hamlet. The church was reopened, after this reconstruction, in 1863. The original roof of the nave, which is flat, has been retained; but a new gabled roof has been placed over the chancel.

The church has nave and chancel only, with small vestry (new) on the south. The west front is of a poor classical style, having a belfry like a little piece of Somerset House, or Newgate, surmounted by a small slate spire. The windows are round-headed, with plate tracery.

The effigy, of course preserved from the old church, is placed at the north side of the altar. It represents a cross-legged knight in chain armour, having the hand in the middle of the sword. There is some animal for the feet to rest on; the left foot is perfect, but the right foot is gone. On the shield, the shape of which marks it to be of thirteenth century date, are these bearings:—Two bars (or, perhaps, barry), with three mullets in chief. The same coat is on the tunic. Round the hem of the tunic are remains of a motto, or senti-

\* Price 1/-. G. C. Caster, Publisher, Peterborough.



ment. This is very unusual. It is in black letter, and cannot be wholly made out. It seems to be, "Better is . . . than their . . ."

The monumental tablet to the Curtis family has this inscription :—

Sacred to the Memory of the CURTIS Family, Lords of this Mannor; this Monument is Erected by their Heiress ELIZ. the Wife of SIR JOHN SMITH *Bar<sup>t</sup>.* of *Sydling* in *Dorsetshire*; particularly of her Much Lamented Father ROBERT CURTIS *Esq<sup>r</sup>.* Barister at Law He died March 18: 1743 Aged 33 Years, Universaly beloved and Respected; leaving her his Only Child, by ELIZ. the Daught<sup>r</sup>. of JOHN WYLDBORE of *Peterborough* *Esq.* Likewise in Grateful Remembrance of her Uncle NOAH CURTIS *Esq.* He died unmarried Oct. 12, 1759 Aged 56 Years, and left her his Heir. Their remains with those of EDWARD their Father (who Built this Church) and SARAH his wife, HENRY and CHARLES their sons lye deposited within the Chancel.

Below this monument are the Curtis arms:—Paly of six, or and azure, a fess chequy, azure and or. Crest, a ram's head. This is almost identical with the coat used by the Curtis family, baronets, of Caynham Court, Ludlow. A hatchment shews the arms of the Smiths, baronets, now extinct:—A fesse cotised between three martlets. On the shield is the Ulster hand.

Wilsthorpe is about five miles south of Bourne. At the last census its population was 84. ED.

**859.—Crowland Rectory.**—In Sweeting's *Parish Churches in and around Peterborough*, 1868, p. 122, it is said of Crowland :—"The living is now a rectory. How it became so called, or why this description was recognised, is not known." The following notes will assist to clear up the origin of Crowland rectory.

Before the dissolution of the monastery the inhabitants of the town were permitted to use a part\* of the abbey church. This was the north aisle of the nave, which was unusually broad,

\* In old wills, we find torches, wax, &c., bequeathed to the "parish altar," and to other altars.

and was perhaps built with special intention of serving as a church for the townsmen : and it is, in fact, the very building which is still used. There was no separate church, and no benefice with cure of souls. After the surrender volunteers may have attended to the spiritual wants of the inhabitants. In 1551 the Crown leased the manor to Lord Edward Clinton, and the church may have been a donative, as at Thorney. Little is known about it till the reign of Charles I., when Robert Chapman, clerk, by will, transferred the rectory, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances, to the incumbent for the time being. The Rev. Augustine Bracher found it necessary to appeal to the Commissioners for Pious Uses to hold an inquisition to establish his right, under the will of the donor. The return of the Commissioners, made in 1639, is as follows\* :—

To the Rt Honbl. Thos. Lord Coventry Baron of Alesbrough the certificate of Edmund Hall and Dymoke Walpole esquires Thomas Holt batchelor of Divinity and Edward Smyth gent. Humble certifie y<sup>r</sup> honour that upon Wednesday the twelvth of June laste wee met at Croyland in the county of Lincoln by virtue of his Majesty's Commission under the great seale of England to us and others directed to inquire according to the purport thereof of all gifts imployment or Misimployment of lands or goods given to charitable uses Where it was presented before us that Robert Chapman late of Croyland afs<sup>d</sup> in the county afs<sup>d</sup> clerke deceased did give by will the rectory or parsonage appropriate of Croyland afs<sup>d</sup> unto the minister for the time being lawfully placed there to serve the Cure and successively for ever together with all the tythes offerings and profits whatsoever as by the presentment of the jury under their hands herewith enclosed more plainly appearith Whereupon we have ordered (as much as in us lyeth) that the said Rectory or parsonage afs<sup>d</sup> shall for ever be and remain with Augustine Bracher clerke who now hath the cure of soules there and his successors in the same rectory and parsonage having the same cure according to the will of the said donor Robert Chapman which wee submit to your honours further pleasure humble taking our leaves and

At y<sup>r</sup> honours comande

Edm. Hall, Dymoke Walpole, Thos Holt, Edw. Smyth.

The parish is probably co-extensive with the manor. During the commonwealth Col. Valentine Walton was in possession of the manor, and an intruder of the rectory. In 1671 the Crown leased the manor of Crowland, and the marsh called Great Pursant (qy. Postland ?), excepting Gogisland and Alderland, for 60 years to Sir Thomas Orby, who made an assignment to Robert Hunter, and so it passed to Robert Orby Hunter,

\* Petty Bag : 14 Car. I.

from whom mortgagees took possession in 1769. The manor was afterwards alienated from the Crown by Act of Parliament.\*

There were several suits about the rectory in the 17th century. In 1677 there is one instituted by Henry Perne, clerk, against Samuel Kendal and others about the tithes. Perne was Rector, and also held a prebend in Lincoln Cathedral; he became Rector of Leverington, co. Camb., where he is buried. Depositions of witnesses in this suit were taken at the house of Henry Molby "known by the signe of the White Hart in Crowland," before Henry Fane and Joseph Davis, Commissioners.†

Thomas Hunter of Cowbitt said. I was tenant of Alderland 16 years ago, and paid tithes in kind to the then incumbent Willm. Styles, so did others. In 1660 I took a lease from Sir Thos. Orbye, lessee of the Queen's Majesty, of the manor of Crowland and lands in Great Postland. I endeavoured to resist payment of tithes, but in the end agreed to pay a composition of £30 to Mr. Styles.‡

Matthew Wyche of Stamford, apothecary, 61, said: My mother was tenant of the Abbey Lands, and paid £4 for tithe composition to Mr. Styles, and since her death I have done so.

A suit between Mr. Styles and William Richmond is referred to. Other witnesses testify to the value of titheable property. Thus George Firth, labourer, says "the milk of a cow in Crowland is worth four pence per week, and a pig at the month is worth one shilling and 2 pence." Richard Cherington, labourer, who was engaged by James Hampson, the occupier of a decoy, says "in 1674 I was employed taking fowl in the decoy, and took about 100 dozen worth 8 shillings a dozen."

The return of the Commissioners for Charitable Uses must have been ignored when William Richmond acquired the rights to the rectory, which he purported to transfer to Anthony Oldfield, clerk. This led to a suit with the above Henry Perne, who was officiating at Crowland. Depositions were taken at the house of William Ashby, known by the sign of the George in Crowland, on 19th June, 1679.§ Among the witnesses were:—

\* I have not found the exact date of this alienation. It was probably about 1778.

† Petty Bag: 29 Car. II., Mich. I.

‡ "The vapouring Priest or Parson of the Town . . . a most irreligious roarer and railer against all goodness." So speaks the Puritan account of the siege of Crowland, Art. 761, of this worthy.

§ Exch. 31., Car. 2., Trin. 4. Mr. Perne's tenants bear Walloon names: Vony, Harley, Males, de Salm, Allum, Massingard, Vanderbeck.

John Harper of Crowland gent. 40, who says: I have known the rectory and parsonage of Crowland for 12 years. I knew Willm. Styles, ck., curate and incumbent of the rectory, who died in April 1677. He was admitted curate and incumbent by Dr. Richard Chaworth, Vicar General of the Province of Canterbury. The license produced granted by the said Doctor was executed in the Register Office of the Archbp. of Canterbury. I saw the writing sealed which purports to be a bargain and sale of the Rectory dated 27 March 1677, between Will: Richmond of Holbech, Rob. Southwell of Parson Drove, of the one part, and Sir Thos. Mackworth, of Normanton, bart., and John Wingfield of Tickencote, of the other part. And this acquittance produced is for the consideration money of £200.

Edward Matson produced a deed of 20 May, 1677, whereby Sir Thomas Mackworth transferred the rectory to Anthony Oldfield.

Thos. Kempe, yeoman, 44, said I have known the rectory 20 years and knew Mr. Styles to officiate as curate and incumbent there for about 10 years before his decease. He died in April, 1677. I was present in the church of Crowland and heard the complainant read divine service within a short time after the decease of Will. Styles, and heard him read the 39 Articles without any disturbance in the church. I was present when John Denham by virtue of the deed of 20 May, 1677, entered and took possession of the rectory and gave peaceable livery and seizin thereof to the complainant.

Henry Perne also went to law respecting the boundaries of the parish: but this was probably in connection with his claim for tithes. There is a suit, Henry Perne v. Sir Chris. Clapham and others, touching the metes and bounds of Great and Little Gogsland, als. Ghostland, recorded in Exch. Dep. by Comm. 33 Car. II., Mich. 14. L.G.

**860.—Delinquents around Peterborough (834).—**The defeated loyalists were not harshly dealt with by the Committee at Goldsmiths' Hall, unless there were any suspicion of recusancy. The Papists were ruined men. The estate of William Bawde of Walgrave was ordered to be sold and the proceeds to go to pay Parliament's debt to the shoemakers at Northampton; but a mere delinquent was glad to be let off with his fine at  $\frac{1}{4}$ th. Christopher Thursby, of Castor, "compounded on his own discovery according to the vote of Parliament." Small estates not worth £200 were not assessed. This was the case of Henry Finimore of Yaxley. Minors did not escape. If old enough to fight; old enough to compound. In 1645 Adam Claypoole,\* of West Deeping, co. Lincs., com-

\* A Kinsman of Sir J. Claypole, Master of the Horse to the Protector, whose daughter Elizabeth he married.

pounded for delinquency, being in arms for the King under Lord Loughborough, for the three years, and being under 21 years of age. His fine was £600.

*Oldfeild of Spalding.\**

Those who had opposed the Court about "Shipping Money" adhered to the interest of the Parliament when the Troubles began. John Oldfeild,† of Spalding, was one of the number, but he was "suspect" in 1642, when he left London, and the Committee of Safety issued their warrant for his apprehension and conveyance to London to answer objections. He‡ was fighting till the surrender of Newark to the Parliament in 1646. His petition is as follows:—

To the honorable the Committee at Goldsmiths Hall for Compositions  
with delinquents.

The humble petition of John Oldfeild of Spalding in the County of Lincoln esqr.

Sheweth That yor<sup>ps</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> having borne armes ag<sup>t</sup> the Parliament being in Newark when the same was surrendered to the parliament had liberty by the articles to come hither and compound for his estate whose evidences being out of the pet<sup>r</sup>'s power he cannot for want thereof make his pticular who having taken the naconall oathe and Covenant

Humbly prayeth letters may be sent downe to the Committee in Lincolnshire to certefy the pticulars of the pet<sup>r</sup>'s estate with the yerly charges issueing thereout for the time past and to come and that for the expediting of the matter the pet<sup>r</sup> may have liberty in pson to attend his businesse in the country

28 May, 1646

And he shall ever pray &c.

Order to certify

John Oldfeild.

Referd to ye sub. committee.

In his "particular" M<sup>r</sup> Oldfeild returns the Priory site and lands, where he dwelt, as of the annual value of £280; and the total value of his estate at £1300. He claimed a deduction of £2000, the amount of a Public Faith Bill issued in favour of his mother Margaret; and in respect of a debt of £1400 to the children of Christopher Clapham, Esq.; and for a loan of £200 made to Parliament in 1642; and for two suits of hangings sold, since he submitted to Parliament, by the sequestrator

\* Anthony Oldfeild, son of John, of Bingley, co. Yorks., attorney, came to Spalding in 1590. He married Margaret Read of Finchbeck in 1596. He acquired Spalding Rectory in 1609.

† Married to Mary Blythe of Denton, co. Lincs. Died at Spalding 1659. His son Anthony, attorney, born 1626; married to Elis. Gresham of Titey, Surrey. He died at Spalding, 1668, æt. 42, S.P. His death was caused by injuries received in a riot of the Spalding Watermen. He was created a baronet in 1660 and acted as High Sheriff of Lincolnshire in 1661. See MS. Visitation of Lincs., 1634, at College of Arms; pressmark in the Library, C. 28.

‡ Dom. Car. I., vol. 539—104.

who had them in his custody, for £20, they being worth more than £40.

The estate being large and difficult to assess, the Committee ordered a local enquiry. The report of the agents of the Committee furnished a good account of Mr. Oldfeild's doings and affairs. It is as follows :—

Gentlemen

In pursuance of your Order of the 28th of May wch wee received the 16th of June followinge we certifie: That John Oldfeild of Spalding esqr att the first beginning of these warres did voluntarily contribute two horses with men and armes to the forces raysed against the Parliament.

That he repaired to the ennemyes Garrisons and continued att Newarke untill it was reduced into the obedience of King and Parliament.

That he was a very active Comr of Array and signed warrants for Assessments and Sequestracions from Newarke and was in actuall armes in the field at Belvoirs Ditch and att other tymes.

That he hath made incursions into the country with severall parties of the enemy plundering the country and takeing countrymen prisoners out of their houses.

That when Leicester was taken by the Kings forces he together with other Lincolnshire Com<sup>rs</sup> then at Newarke peticoned the King to draw downe against the Parliament forces in Grantham and writt to the Earl of Lindsey to assist them in their peticon.

That when some of the Parliaments friends were taken prisoners to Newarke they received more uncivill usage and hard measure from him than from others there.

His estate hath bin formerly as followeth, viz:—

|   |   |                   |
|---|---|-------------------|
| freehold  | { In Spaldinge one capitall mesenage being the mansion house of the sayd Mr. Oldfeild with the site of the Priory and divers shoppes and 40 acres of land in Spalding and ten acres in Pinchbecke and one other messuage with 93 acres of land in Spalding and 16 acres in Pinchbecke worth p. ann..... | 160 <sup>li</sup> |
| Item 3 cottages, barne and orchard, 102 acres and 3 roods of land in Spalding and Pinchbeck p. ann.....                       |   | 70 <sup>li</sup>  |
| Item one cottage and six acres of fen ground in Moulton and eight acres arrable and wood ground in Whapload worth p. ann..... |   | 4 <sup>li</sup>   |
| Item a rent charge in Holbech for ever .....  |   | 50 <sup>li</sup>  |
| Item the Manor of Whapload Hall in Bicker with the rents of Divers free tenants worth p. ann.....                             |   | 32 <sup>li</sup>  |
| Item 6 acres of land in Wigtoft, 6 acres in Kirton and frampton, 15 acres in Gosberkirk and Surfleet p. ann.....              |   | 15 <sup>li</sup>  |
| The freehold worth p. ann.....  |   | 331 . 0 . 0       |
| Copyhold lands for ever.....  |   | 21 <sup>li</sup>  |
| Leases for lives and years .....  |   | 187 . 12 . 0      |

This is all we know or can inform ourselves of touching the crimes or estate of the said Mr. Oldfeild.

Will. Disney.  
Jo. Willesby.

Jo. Archer.  
Tho. Nethercotts.

W. Godfrey.  
Jo. Disney.

Mr. Oldfeild's fine was fixed at £1390. He found it desirable to obtain a pardon under the Great Seal, and reinvestment of his lands and goods. This pardon is rarely met with. Possibly the fees for passing the Seal were prohibitory. Pardons on Compositions have been described as "a device to fill the pockets" of the state lawyers, and the discharge of Compounders was often delayed till they had sued out a pardon. This was so with the following.

*Richard Wyche of Croyland.\**

He pleads duress to excuse himself for fighting against Parliament at the Siege of Croyland :—

To the honorable Comittes of Goldsmith Hall London.

The humble petition of Richard Weech of Croyland in y<sup>e</sup> County of Lincoln yeoman.  
Sheweth

That yor petitioner in y<sup>e</sup> yeare 1642 was by y<sup>e</sup> enemy who were then Masters of Croyland, he then living in y<sup>e</sup> said Towne, was compelled to take up Armes against y<sup>e</sup> Parlyam<sup>nt</sup>. But he in obedience to an Ordinance of Parlyam<sup>nt</sup> so soon as he was out of their power he submitted himself to ye justice and mercy of y<sup>t</sup> honorable court and willingly and freely tendred himselfe to their protection about y<sup>e</sup> last of February 1643 taking y<sup>e</sup> covenant and protestacon and hath ever since lived and behaved himselfe obediently to ye commands of Parlyam<sup>nt</sup> and is ready with his life and fortune to serve them notwithstanding all wch yor petitioner hath his estate being sixteene pounds p. ann. sequestred and is likely to be put to great extremity unles your honors pleas to take it into your consideracon and  
y<sup>r</sup> petitionr shall dayly praie &c.

Richard Wyche.

Mr. Wyche's house had been looted, all his personal estate lost, and the County Agent of the Committee certified that "he hath lived in the Parliament's quarters above a year and hath demened himself well towards the officers and souldiers under the Parliament's command as Lieut. Collonel Dodson says." Nevertheless his fine was £50.

*Poyntz of Dogsthorpe.*

Major Genl. Poyntz in the army of the Parliament is well known, but most of his kinsmen were fighting for the King. Captn. Newdigate Poyntz was killed at Gainsborough ; and as he had assigned his property before the Civil War began, his

\* Members of this family are referred to in manorial affairs from 1500 to 1700. William Wyche in 1611 was acting as bailiff of the manor for King James I.

estate was nominal: yet a fine of £30 was imposed on his widow, who lodged this short petition:—

30 Apl. 1646. The humble petition of Mary Poyntz widdowe late wife of Newdigate Poyntz deceased. Sheweth that yor petr's husband was Captain of a troope of horse under the command of Colonel Candish in the garrison of Newark and at the seige of Gainsborough he was slaine.

The widow's case was urged by Speaker Lenthall, who wrote thus on her behalf to the Committee at Goldsmiths' Hall:—

"Gentlemen, This bearer's late husband Captain Newdigate Poynes haveinge beene in armes about three yeares since, and he now being dead and she left with five younge children, her case hath been specially recommended to mee by her brother Major Genl Poynes now at ye seige at Newarke, that you and the house might be acquainted therewith, hee making it his request that she might receive favor for his sake; whch I am confident ye house will doe; nevertheles she desires herewith to present herselfe and her case unto you wch I shall upon sight accordinge to ye desire of Genl Poyntz acquaint you withall and the house when it shall come thither, ever resting  
Yor assured friend

30 April 1646.

W<sup>m</sup>. Lenthall.

*Mathew Robinson of Longthorpe.*

The Robinsons held Longthorpe manor on lease from the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough. The fee of this manor was held by the Wittilbury family till the reign of Henry VII. It was then conveyed to the Abbot and Convent, and at the erection of the See it was granted to the Dean and Chapter, who held it till the Ecclesiastical Commissioners sold it to the Fitzwilliams.

Mathew Robinson's delinquency was occasioned by deserting his dwelling and living in Newark, while it was a garrison for the King's forces. His estate was worth about £300 a year, and his fine was £850.

A true and full particular of the estate real and personal of Mathew Robinson of Longthorpe esquire.

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| He is seised of an estate of frank tenement for the term of three lives of and in the manor of Longthorpe with the appurtenances which he holds by lease of the dean and chapter of Peterborough at the yearly rent of fifteen pounds and was worth over and above ye said rent yearly before these troubles the sum of .....   | 85 . 0 . 0  |
| He is seised of lands and pastures in Longthorpe of &c.....   | 2 . 0 . 0   |
| He is seised of an estate to him and his heirs of certain messuages lands and marshe grounde in Waplodd Multon and Holbidge or in one or more of them in coy. Lincoln of the yearly value before these troubles of 250£ but the said marshe grounde is subject to the danger of the sea and the keeping of the banks verie chargeable, the charges whereof one year with another amount to 50£ a year so the clear yearly value is..... | 200 . 0 . 0 |

Mat. Robinson.



*Shirley of Bottlebridge.*

The estate of Sir Thomas Shirley, a recusant, residing in the manor house of Botolph Bridge, was exhausted by claimants. The principal manor had been conveyed in 1637 to Dame Penelope Gage for a term of 200 years, and for the consideration of £500: and Lovet's\* manor was leased for a term to John Castle, of Glatton. There was nothing left to sell, so the sequestration was discharged.

*Carrier of Helpston.*

This delinquent had nothing left but a lease of the rectory of Helpston valued at £60 a year before the Troubles, and £30 since.

To the right hon<sup>ble</sup> the Committee for Sequestracons sitting at  
Goldsmiths Hall London

The humble peticon of James Carryer of Helpston in the County  
of Northton

Shewing

That yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> holds by lease for yeares of the Colledge called Christs Colledge in the University of Cambridge the Rectory of Helpston aforesaid which (the rents to the Colledge and paymt<sup>s</sup> to y<sup>e</sup> Minister and preacher there and taxes to y<sup>e</sup> Parliament being paid and discharged) will not be worth above 30<sup>li</sup> to yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup>.

That by reason of yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup>'s absence for a time amongst some of his Kindred and friends the said Rectory was sequestered to y<sup>e</sup> Parliaments use, besides all his goods seized for the Parliament soe as yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> hath nothing left to mainteyne himselfe wife and Children.

ffor that yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> never tooke up Armes, nor contributed anything at all to the King's partie, whereof he is ready to make oath

His humble suite therefore is that this honble Committee will admit him to a reasonable composicon and that y<sup>e</sup> sequestracon may be taken off and yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> restored to ye said Rectory, it being all the means he hath left to subsist.

And yo<sup>r</sup> pet<sup>r</sup> shall pray &c

I doe declare the estate above mentioned was befor the troubles begun  
worth 60<sup>li</sup> p ann p me James Carier.

13 Jan. 1645. The lease is for 16 years of the Rectory  
fine 60<sup>li</sup>

Generally the practice of the Committee was based on ordinary legal procedure. The informer had to enter into a bond to prosecute to conviction, and if he failed to justify, the penalty of his bond was levied on his estate. This was so in the case of Edward Bellamy, of Farcet, Robert Coveney, Robert Dickenson, and Henry Salmon, of Stanground, who were

\* Lovet's Manor. Inquis: post mort. Held in chief by Thos. Lovet esq: ob: Feb 16. 7 Hy. VII. Worth 8 marks by service of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a Knight's fee: heir Thos. Lovet, set 17.

alleged to have sent three horsemen and arms for the service of the King. The charge was uncertain, and the prosecutor failed to fix time, place, and person. A like result followed where the party charged was after full hearing found not to be a delinquent within the Ordinances of Sequestration; as in the case of William Wymondsall, junior, of Deeping S. James, who was charged with having borne arms against Parliament, betrayed the forces in Welbeck, assisted the Commissioners of Array, and forced Robert More and others to go as soldiers for the late King. The attachment of debts due to a delinquent was strict. Christopher Thursby, of Caster, who was assessed at £500, had taken prisoner of war one William Roberts of Sutton Cheney, and carried him to Leicester, and then liberated him on his bond for £300. Roberts failed to pay up in a month, and the Committee seized his estate and collected his rents to satisfy the bond.

L. GACHES.

**861.—Boston Stump.**—The recent accident to this famous steeple is our excuse for quoting a memorandum about its erection, taken from *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. VI. 7. It was communicated by Mr. C. J. Ridge, and found by him written on the fly-leaf of an old book in his possession.

Boston Church and Steeple in Lincolnshire.

Anno 1309 in the 3<sup>d</sup> year of Edward y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> On the Monday after Palm Sunday\* in y<sup>e</sup> Same year, The Miners began to break ground for y<sup>e</sup> Foundation of Boston Steeple continuing till Midsummer following at which time they were deeper than the Haven by 5 foot, and there they found a bed of Stone, upon a Spring of Sand, and that Laid upon a bed of Clay, whose thickness could not be known.

Upon the Monday next after the Feast of St<sup>t</sup> John Baptist † was laid the first stone by Dame Margery Tilney, upon which she laid 5<sup>l</sup> and St<sup>r</sup> John Fruesdall (then Parson of Boston) gave also 5<sup>l</sup>, and Richard Stephenson a Merchant of Boston gave 5<sup>l</sup> more, these were all the gifts given at that time. The Altitude of the Steeple, and length of y<sup>e</sup> Church are equal, viz<sup>t</sup> each 94 yards, the Steps of y<sup>e</sup> Steeple are 365, Windows 52, Pillars 12, as equal to the daies, weekes, and months in y<sup>e</sup> year.

Collected p<sup>r</sup> MATT. HUMBERSTONE. Taken 10<sup>th</sup> April 1699.

The name of the Rector, as given in Mr. Jebb's *Guide to the Church of S. Botolph*, should be Truesdale. The Tilneys were

\* Monday, 24 March, 1309.

† Monday, 30 June, 1309.

a knightly family of distinction, of whom it is said there was a direct succession of sixteen Knights. The first was Sir Frederick Tilney, who went with Richard I. to the Holy Land: though his chief residence was at Boston, after his return from the crusade he lived and died at Terrington, in Norfolk. No doubt the family derived their name from the neighbouring village of Tilney. The last of the series was another Sir Frederick, whose father, Sir Philip, had been present at the Field of the Cloth of Gold. Sir Frederick's daughter and sole heir, Elizabeth, married (1) Sir Humphrey Bourchier, son and heir of John, Lord Berners, and (2) Thomas Howard, created Earl of Surrey, and afterwards 2nd Duke of Norfolk, K.G. She died in 1506. She was grandmother of the Earl of Surrey, the distinguished statesman, poet, and warrior, who was beheaded by Henry VIII., one of the charges brought against him being that he quartered the arms of Edward the Confessor.

Dame Margery Tilney was no doubt the wife of one of this family of Knights.

The accident referred to above occurred on the evening of Sunday, 5th Aug., 1900, just as Divine Service came to an end. A heavy thunderstorm had been raging for some time, and the lightning struck one of the eight pinnacles of the tower, detaching the ornamental stonework from its base. Part of the mass so detached fell on to the roof, forced its way through the lead and wood of the roof and through the inner ceiling, and fell into the church, very near to the font. This was happily not touched, though its stone base was damaged. The congregation was standing during the playing of the Dead March, the Duke of Coburg having died during the previous week. But for this, the clergy and choir, or some of the congregation, would certainly have been struck by the falling stonework. The larger part, said to weigh some 15 cwts., fell inside the lantern, crushing through the roof of the bell-chamber, and on to the framework of the bells.

862.—**Whittlesey Riots, 1795.**—I have an original broadside, endorsed in writing as above, containing the names of Special Constables appointed for the occasion. Such lists are always worth preserving; and probably not many copies of this paper are in existence.

Can any correspondent tell us what was the cause of the contemplated disturbance? Was it connected with the heavy cost of provisions? It is known that this was the occasion of great distress and discontent about the end of the last century.

Whittlesey, 5th August, 1795.

**A** LIST of the Persons appointed and sworn to be Special Constables for the Parishes of *Whittlesey* in the Isle of Ely, for the Preservation of the Public Peace within the said Parishes.

*First Division.*

Mr. John Arlidge, Foreman  
John Burgess  
Thomas Oldfield  
James Oldfield  
John Pack  
John Pratt  
Thomas Conquest (*sic*)  
John Benstead

*Second Division.*

Mr. Stephen Aveling, Foreman  
William Hardley jun;  
Thomas Hardley jun;  
Robert Kelsull  
William Beaumont  
William Livermore  
Michael Dial  
Isaac Ruff

*Third Division.*

Mr. Edward Loomes, Foreman  
William Ground jun;  
Thomas Smith  
William Morris  
George Fawn  
James Watson

*Fourth Division.*

Mr. John Johnson, Foreman  
Robert Stoneclift  
John Morton  
John Lamb  
Tavernor Lamb  
Robert Spragan  
Nathan White  
William Hobbs jun;  
William Joyce  
William Ashling

*Fifth Division.*

Mr. John Boyce, Foreman  
John Baker  
Thomas Fountain  
John Fountain  
Abraham Fountain  
Joseph Briggs jun;  
Thomas Boone  
James Giddings  
Jabez Reed  
John Warren

*Sixth Division.*

Mr. John Sudbury jun. Foreman  
Thomas Hemment  
James Blunt  
John Morton Allocock  
Joseph Bishop  
Mark White jun.  
Robert Claypole  
William Claypole  
James Whittome

*Seventh Division.*

Mr. John Smith, Foreman  
James Dison  
Henry Smith  
John Brown  
George Baker  
Thomas Wylie  
Charles Speechly  
John Hemment  
Thomas Bates

*Eighth Division.*

Mr. Thomas Elsum, Foreman  
John Bellars  
John Griffin  
John Stimpson

George Campion  
John Briggs  
William Brampton  
Daniel Whittome  
William Weston  
John Linnen

*Ninth Division.*

Mr. Robert Plummer, Foreman  
William Plummer jun ;  
William Boyce  
George Bruce  
William Berridge  
William Wabb  
John Sansby

*Tenth Division.*

Mr. John Cunningham, Foreman  
Edward Fuller  
William Read Boatwright  
Edward Shacklock  
John Martin

*Eleventh Division.*

Mr. Stephen Richardson, Foreman  
William Plummer Sen ;  
Richard Cheshire  
John Maltby jun ;  
John Weston  
William Randall, Thatcher

*Twelfth Division.*

Mr. William Plummer Atkinson,  
Foreman  
William Speechly Grocer  
Jeremiah King  
James Tinkler  
James Cook  
Thomas Household  
James Walton  
Thomas Read Grocer  
John Walton jun ;  
James Anchor  
John Randall, Taylor

*Thirteenth Division.*

Mr. James Hurry, Foreman  
Daniel Hunt  
George Smith  
Robert Randall  
Edward Whilleman  
Thomas Speechly  
John Goulding  
William Goulding  
William Ainger  
Benjamin Atkinson

*Fourteenth Division.*

Mr. Thomas Johnson, Foreman  
John Russel  
Thomas Russel

Matthew Goude  
John Griggs  
William James  
William Perkins  
John Cole  
Thomas Arnold  
John Lovel

*Fifteenth Division.*

Mr. John Burnham, Foreman  
George Burnham  
Jeremiah Ashling  
John Loomes  
Thomas Andrew  
Thomas Aveling jun ;  
Stephen Aveling jun ;  
Matthew Dial  
William Randall Low Cross

*Sixteenth Division.*

Mr. John Redfern, Foreman  
William Buck  
George Speechly  
John Speechly  
John Searle  
Robert Searle  
Richard Chambers  
George Richer  
Thomas Bournfield  
John Mills

*Seventeenth Division.*

Mr. Thomas Gibson, Foreman  
William Hemment  
William Winterton  
Thomas Cole  
William Boston  
Thomas Kelsull jun ;  
Thomas Cheshire  
Robert Cheshire  
George Oldfield

*Eighteenth Division.*

Mr. W. D. Ground, Foreman  
James Aveling Grocer  
John Campion  
George Taylor  
William Harrison  
Richard Bodger  
Samuel Forster  
Thomas Hardley Plaah  
William Algar  
Richard Triplov  
James Setchfield

*Eastrea Division.*

Mr. William Batson sen ; Foreman  
John Bailey  
Thomas Shaw  
John Hurry Grocer  
William Blunt

**William Batson jun :**

John Simpson  
James Simpson  
Thomas Simpson  
Abraham Smith  
Thomas Haresine  
James Barret  
William Boyce  
John Hurry  
James Hurry

*Coates Division.*

Mr. Abraham Hobbs, Foreman  
William Fawn  
Thomas Redhead  
Stephen Hurry  
Carter Needham  
James Whittam  
John Blunt  
James Hughes

*Eldernell Division.*

Mr. Joseph Little, Foreman  
John Little  
John Waddelow  
James Boyce jun ;

*North Fen Division.*

Mr. Edward Ground, Foreman  
John Forster  
William Barton  
John Barton  
James Barton  
William Bradley

*South Fen Division.*

Mr. William Loomes, Foreman  
Isaac Speechly  
John Speechly  
Robert Speechly  
James Loomes  
Thomas Searle  
Daniel Ground jun ;  
Thomas Randall  
William Reason  
William Fawn  
Robert Jennings jun ;  
Francis Holmes  
Stanford Berridge

Each Constable is to be furnished with a Staff.

The Foreman of each Division on receiving a Notice from *William Read*, *James Baker*, or *John Sootney*, the Parish Constables, or *Thomas Ground*, the Town Beadle, of an Apprehension of a Riot or Disturbance, is to summon immediately all the Constables within his Division, and they are to repair with all possible Expedition to the Market-Place in Whittlesey.

The Constables so assembled will be immediately joined by the Principal Inhabitants of the said Parishes, who have entered into an Engagement to render every possible Protection to the Constables, and to use their utmost Endeavours for securing the Public Peace.

PETERBOROUGH: Printed by J. JACOB.

Ed.

**863.—Wild Fowl Driving in the Fens.**—Among the Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society, Vol. VII., p. 90, is an interesting article entitled "Wild-Fowl Driving in the Sixteenth Century," by Mr. Thomas Southwell, a Vice-President of the Society. We have the author's permission to summarise this paper for our readers.

"The most productive, if the most destructive and reprehensible method of taking wild-fowl was certainly that practised in certain parts of England long before the introduction of Decoys proper (which did not take place till early in the seventeenth

century), and was known in the Lincolnshire and Norfolk Fens as "Ducking"; it is probable that the ruinous system here referred to, aided by the drainage works which had been undertaken, had already greatly depleted the vast multitude of wild-fowl which bred in the Fens before the more reasonable method of decoying had been introduced to deal with the remnant that was left." It is on record that poaching to a considerable extent prevailed in the fifteenth century. In 1432 some men stole 600 fowl from the private waters of the Abbot of Crowland.

This method of driving is thus described by Sir Ralph Gallwey. Moulting drakes and flappers were driven by men in boats, armed with sticks, "into a vast horse-shoe arrangement of nets ending in pipes similar to those in a Decoy." And this practice continued certainly till late in the seventeenth century, for in a communication to the Royal Society, 1696, referring to the Decoys at Wainfleet, we are told that "About Midsummer (when moulting time is) several persons, some from Pleasure, others for Profit, go in small Boats among the Reeds, and with Long Poles knock them down, they not being able to Swim or Fly from them."

Mr. Southwell quotes our article (Art. 474 ; Vol. II., p. 19) on "Deeping Fen Ducking," in which mention is made of the Act of Parliament made in 1534 against the destruction of wild-fowl. This Act complains that the "brode of wylde-foulle" is wasted by the pernicious practice of the inhabitants of the districts taking great numbers of them at times when the old fowl are moulting and the young not fully feathered "by certen nettes and other ingyngs and polycies;" and it protects the eggs of certain sorts under pain of one year's imprisonment, in addition to fines, varying with the different kinds of fowl. For each egg "destroyed, purloined, withdrawn, or taken from any Nest or Place," of a crane, or bustard, the fine was 20d. ; for an egg of a bittern, heron, or spoon-bill (called a shoveldard), the fine was 8d. ; while one penny each was held sufficient for

an egg of a mallard, teal, or other wild-fowl. In some instances birds are named among those which may not be netted, but their eggs are not included among those which must not be taken, because they did not breed in this country.

But this Act did not long remain in force. It was repealed in 1550. And the effect of this seems to have been that "although the taking of their eggs was still prohibited, the wild-fowl themselves were left unprotected"; and accordingly large numbers continued to be taken. The impoverishment of the people who made their living by taking the wild-fowl was the ostensible occasion of the repeal of the Act of 1534.

No further legislation seems to have occurred on this subject till 1706. In that year an Act was passed "for the better Preservation of Game"; and in the preamble reference is made to the "idle loose Persons" who did the poaching, and to the receivers who supported them. The unlicensed persons who used "Greyhounds, Setting Dogs, Hayes, Lurchers, Tunnels, or any other engines to kill or destroy game" were liable to be punished. This Act was in three years superseded by another which specially recites the "great Damage and Decay of the Breed of Wild Fowl" caused by driving and taking them at unseasonable times. The fine was 5s. for each fowl, and there was further a penalty of not less than fourteen days or more than one month in prison, with whipping, hard labour, and the loss of nets and engines employed.

The Act was confirmed in 1710 and in 1737, but having been found not wholly effectual, the close time was extended, so as to last from 1 June to 1 Oct.

The last Act on the subject seems to have been passed in 1831; except, of course, the recent Wild Birds Protection Acts. All previous Acts, 27 in number, beginning in the reign of Richard II., were repealed. The eggs of certain wild-fowl were protected, and no person not having right of killing game on any land might do so without the permission of some one who had such right.



**864.—The Gentlemen's Society of Peterborough.—**

This Society was instituted as a sort of branch of the well known and still very flourishing Society at Spalding ; and in the early days of its prosperity as an association of men of letters who read papers, and kept up literary correspondence with scholars all over England, it was in constant communication with the members of the parent Society at Spalding. For many years the Society has degenerated into a mere circulating library : and at last the members felt that the valuable collection of books in its possession would be more generally useful if made over to the Corporation Library ; and it was agreed that this should be done. But the original members of the Society had not been without fear that the enthusiasm of its early years might not last, and that there might come in the future a time when the supply of competent scholars, willing to engage in regular literary exercises such as were the rule at first, would fail : and they accordingly provided that if such a time should arrive, and the Society should be dissolved, its collections should be offered to the Dean and Chapter of Peterborough for preservation in the Minster Library. It became necessary, therefore, before the books could be offered to the Corporation, to obtain the consent of the Cathedral authorities. This was not only readily given, but they also offered to restore to the Society, to be included in the gift to the City Library, the earliest Minute Book of the Society, which had been in their possession for nearly fifty years. On the first page of this book is this note :—

Presented  
by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Henry Freeman  
Rector of Folksworth  
to the library of the Cathedral Church of Peterborough  
its intended destination.

Decr. 1853.

See pp. 9. 212.

How this book came into Mr. Freeman's possession is not known. He does not appear to have ever been a member of the Society, though it is thought his father may have been. If so, the latter may have borrowed the book for perusal, and it may

have still been in his keeping at the time of his death, and so came to his son. From the inscription just given it is clear that the Rector of Folksworth considered the Society to have fallen away altogether from its first intention, and that the making over of its books to the Cathedral was merely a matter of time.

The following is the minute mentioned above, providing for the due preservation of the books if the Society came to an end.

25 June 1740.

We the Present Regular Members of this Society do acknowledge it to be the Original Agreement and Institution thereof, that whatever Books, Prints, Papers, Medals and other Curiosities do or shall belong to this Society, shall, in case of a Dissolution of the same, be repositied in the Library belonging to the Dean and Chapter of this Cathedral Church, and shall not be divided among any or all of the Members of the said Society; And we do hereby accordingly testifye our Agreement thereto and renounce all such Claim or Title to the same. And we also further declare and agree that no person shall hereafter be admitted or deemed a regular Member of this Society who shall not first subscribe this Ordinance. Witness our hands.

John Thomas  
Tho Bradfield  
Tim: Neve Secr:  
Matt: Wyldbore  
W Paley Libr<sup>n</sup>.  
Mayo Tims  
Thomas Cox Treas<sup>r</sup>.  
W Strong And<sup>r</sup>.  
R Austin  
R Bridgman

Tho: Marshall  
Bev: Lewis  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Tryoe  
Fred: Williams  
Tho<sup>s</sup>. Bowker  
Ch: Balguy  
Fitzwilliam  
Arm Parker  
Rich<sup>d</sup> Ward  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Delarue

Rob<sup>t</sup>. Smyth  
John Forster  
Tho<sup>s</sup>: Warriner  
James Forster  
W. Whitehead  
Rob: Smith  
E Bigland  
Mainw<sup>s</sup>: Laughton  
Tho<sup>s</sup>. Mirehouse  
John Fisher

From this Minute Book, which is called "A Journal of the Transactions of the Gentlemen's Society in Peterborough instituted the Twenty Sixth day of August 1730," a list of Members has been drawn up. Some of these names are taken from their signatures when admitted, some are from the notices of election in the minutes, and some are from their being described in some places as members, although no note of their election appears. The list is therefore probably not quite complete. The members were of two sorts; Regular Members, who resided in Peterborough or the immediate neighbourhood, and who were expected to attend the meetings pretty constantly; and Honorary Members, who resided at a distance, and who were expected occasionally to correspond with the Society, and

to make some gift to the Library, and to attend meetings when in Peterborough. Regular Members, on their leaving Peterborough, were often placed on the list of Honorary Members. The period covered by this Minute Book only extends from August, 1730, to March, 1743. Any notes, biographical or otherwise, which correspondents may be able to supply, will be welcome.

## REGULAR MEMBERS.

Rowell, John.

President. Died 1739.

Parker, Armstead.

M.P. for Peterborough, 6 Geo. II., and 7 to 14 Geo. II.

Marshall, Rev. Thomas.

Of Christ's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1721. Vicar of St. John Baptist, Peterborough; also Minor Canon, and Head Master of the King's School. Died 3 Oct., 1748.

Bradfield, Rev. Thomas.

Of St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1716. In 1729 he was Head Master of the King's School, and in 1733 Precentor.

Smyth, Rev. Robert.

Rector of Woodston, co. Hunts. Died 1761. Described on memorial tablet on wall of Woodston Church as "a sincere honest man, and good Christian. His utmost endeavours were To Benefit mankind, and Relieve the poor, He was a laborious and correct Antiquarian."

Neve, Rev. Timothy.

Of St. John's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1718, according to obituary notice of his son in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, where he is also credited with being D.D., but these degrees are not given in the *Graduati Cantabrigienses*. For notice of his preferments, &c., see Vol. III., p. 221. He was the real founder of the Gentlemen's Society of Peterborough.

Rowell, John, Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Hill, Rev. Theophilus.

Of Peterhouse, Cambridge; M.B., 1705.

Delarue, James, Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Austin, Richard, Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Of Peterborough.

Clement, J., Jun<sup>r</sup>.

Of Woodston.

Gibson, Rev. Thomas.

Of Queen's College, Oxford, M.A., Rector of Paston, 1720; also Rector of Polebroke, both in Northants.; Prebendary of Peterborough, 1726. Died 1729. He married Bishop White Kennett's niece.

Robinson, Rev. Thomas.

Fellow of Merton College, Oxford; B.D., 1731; D.D., 1732. Vicar of Ponteland, co. Northumb. Prebendary of Peterborough, 1730.

Ash, William.

Of Paston.

Bannier, Rev. Edward.

Afternoon Preacher at Gray's Inn.

Cumberland, Rev. Richard.

Prebendary of Peterborough and Archdeacon of Northampton. Full account of him in Vol. II., pp. 278-9. Died 1737.

Pennington, Samuel.

Register of the Diocese.

Hawkins, William.

Of Peterborough.

**Balguy, Charles.**

Of Peterborough, M.D. Tablet to his memory in Church of S. John Baptist: "A Man of strict Integrity, Various and great Learning, and of distinguished Eminence in his Profession." Died 1767. He was of S. John's College, Cambridge, M.B., 1731; M.D., 1750. He translated the Decameron of Boccaccio, and was author of several medical treatises. He was second son of Henry Balguy, of Derwent Hill, co. Derby. Secretary of the Society.

**Pendleton, William.**

Apothecary in Peterborough. From list of members his name was "eras'd . . . for Contempt or non-appearance."

**Russell, Rev. John.**

Fellow of Merton College, Oxford; M.A. He was appointed Chaplain to Bishop White Kennett immediately on his consecration in 1718, being then tutor to the Bishop's son. Prebendary of Peterborough, 1720; also of Lincoln. Rector of Stoke next Guildford, co. Surrey. He was elected a member in 1732; "But never pay'd his quarterings nor his attendance to y<sup>e</sup> Society to y<sup>e</sup> year 1745, so accounted no Member."

**Kennett, Rev. White.**

Of Merton College, Oxford; M.A., 1721. Only son of the Bishop. Rector of Alwalton, co. Hunts.; of Burton Coggles, co. Linc.; of Peakirk and Glington from 1732 till his death in 1740. Prebendary of Peterborough, 1724. He also held prebendal stalls at Lincoln and S. Paul's. Succeeded Rowell as President of the Society.

**Fern, George.****Strong, William.**

Auditor to the Society.

**Townshend, Hon. Roger.**

Captain.

**Gery, William.****Sparks, John.**

Of S. John's College, Cambridge; B.A.

**Wyldbore, Matthew.**

Of Trinity College, Cambridge. Twice M.P. for Peterborough: one of the Corporation of the Great Level of the Fens. By his will he charged certain lands with an annual payment of £5 to the minister of Peterborough, "to be by him annually disposed of on the day of my death to the ringers of the said parish church of Saint John the Baptist in Peterborough, part in money and part in an entertainment, as the said minister shall think best, on condition that the said ringers ring one peal or more of the said bells on the same day." These peals are still rung, and the entertainment held, on the 15th of March, in each year: the day is known as "Wyldbore's Day." See Vol. I., pp. 325, 354.

**Cox, Thomas.**

Treasurer.

**Paley, Rev. William.**

Of Christ's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1733. He was Minor Canon, and Usher of the King's School. Vicar of Helpston for 64 years, 1735-99, resigning a few months before his death. Head Master of Giggleswick School, co. York. Treasurer of the Society. His son was the famous Archdeacon Paley, author of *Evidences of Christianity*.

**Austin, Robert.****Williams, Rev. Frederick.**

Prebendary of Peterborough; M.A., afterwards D.D. His elder brother was created a baronet in 1747, Sir Hutchins Williams, of Clapton, co. Northants. He married the eldest daughter of Bishop Clavering. Rector of Peakirk and Glington, 1740-48. At his marriage, in 1736, he is described as of Long Sutton, co. Linc. Died, aged 38, 1746.

**Tims, Rev. Mayo.****Spencer, Rev. Mr.**

Succeeded Paley as Usher at the King's School.

**Lockier, Rev. Dr. Francis.**

Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1690; D.D. 1717. Rector of Hansworth, and of Acton, co. York. Dean of Peterborough, 1725. Died 1740. President of the Society for a few months before his death. He was an intimate friend of Dryden and Pope.

**Bridgman, Richard.**

Of S. John's College, Cambridge; B.A., 1739; M.A., 1759.

**Brown, Rev. Mr.**

Vicar of Deeping S. James, co. Linc.

**Fitzwilliam, Earl.**

In the peerage of Ireland. M.P. for Peterborough, II Geo. II. In 1742 he was made a Peer of the United Kingdom. Died 1756.

**Lewis, Rev. Bernard.**

Of S. John's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1703. Rector of Overton Longville, co. Hunts., and Chaplain to the Earl of Carlisle.

**Thomas, Rev. John.**

Of Catharine Hall, Cambridge; M.A., 1717; D.D., 1729. Canon of Westminster, and S. Paul's. Dean of Peterborough, 1740-44; Bishop of Lincoln, 1744, translated to Salisbury, 1761. Died 1766. President of the Society.

**Ward, Rev. Richard.**

Minor Canon. Librarian of the Society.

**Bowker, Thomas.****Forster, John.****Tryce, Richard.**

Steward of the Courts of the Bishop, and Steward and Register to the Dean and Chapter. Died 1767, aged 71.

**Mirehouse, Rev. Thomas.**

Minor Canon.

**Fisher, John.**

Possibly the Rev. John Fisher, who in 1748 became Vicar of S. John Baptist's; the father of Dr. John Fisher, Bishop of Salisbury, and of Dr. Philip Fisher, Rector of Elton, Canon of Norwich, and Master of the Charterhouse.

**Sherard, Castle.**

No doubt one of the family of the Barons Sherard, of Glatton, co. Hunts.; and the Christian name in the list should be spelt *Castell*.

**Barron, Charles.****Brecknock, Timothy, Jun<sup>r</sup>.****Brown, Rev. Mr.****HONORARY MEMBERS.\*****Johnson, Maurice, Jun<sup>r</sup>.**

Of Spalding.

**Lynn, George, Jun<sup>r</sup>.**

Of the Inner Temple, London.

**Morland, Francis.**

Of the City of London.

**Anderson, George.**

Of the City of London.

**Wortley, alias Montague, Hon. Edward.**

Of Westley, co. York. M.P. for Huntingdon. Formerly M.P. for Peterborough.

**Ott, Rev. John Henry.**

Librarian of Lambeth Library. "A learned Swiss, the son of a gentleman at Zurich who exhibited much kindness to archbishop Wake when in Switzerland in his earlier years. This kindness the archbishop repaid by making his son librarian at Lambeth." (N. & Q., 4th S., i. 49.) Prebendary of Peterborough, 1730; very likely he obtained this preferment as an Archbishop's option.

\* In this list are not included the names of those already given as Regular Members, who became Hon. Members upon their leaving the neighbourhood.

**Motte, Andrew.**

Of the City of London. Deputy  
Professor of Astronomy in Gresham  
College.

**Coke, Hon. Robert.**

Youngest brother to Lord Lovell.

**Ray, Rev. Benjamin.**

Of Spalding.

**Morpeth, Viscount.**

Son and heir apparent of the  
Earl of Carlisle.

**Tinkerson, Thomas.**

**Carey, Henry.**

**Bell, Beaupré, Jun<sup>r</sup>.**

**Snell, Rev. Vyner.**

Of Trinity College, Cambridge;  
M.A., 1709; B.D., 1716. Rector of  
Donnington in the Isle of Ely.

**Pegge, Rev. Samuel.**

Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1729. Afterwards  
D.C.L. of some other University.  
He held at different times the  
livings of Godmersham, co. Kent;  
Whittington, co. Staff.; Brinhill,  
co. Lanc.; and Heath, co. Staff. He  
held also prebends at Lichfield  
and Lincoln. He was an antiquary  
and author. Died 1796.

**Stukeley, Rev. William.**

Of Corpus Christi College, Cam-  
bridge; M.D., 1719. He practised  
at Boston, London, and Grantham.  
Taking holy orders in 1729 he be-  
came Vicar of All Saints, Stamford.  
He was ultimately Rector of S.  
George the Martyr, Queen Square,  
London. He was a Fellow of the  
Royal Society, and an indefatigable  
student and writer on British  
antiquities. But though very  
painstaking he was easily imposed  
upon, and many of the conclusions  
at which he arrived are now recog-  
nised as quite unreasonable and  
impossible.

**West, James.**

Of the Middle Temple, London;  
F.R.S.

**Lynn, George, Sen<sup>r</sup>.**

Of Southwick.

**Stubbing, Dr.**

M.D. of Chesterfield, co. Derby.

**Fretest, Solomon.**

Governor of Damascus. So he  
described himself when introduced  
to the Society; but it was after-  
wards believed that he was an  
impostor.

**Smith, Henry.**

**FitzEdwards, Rev. Mr.**

**Green, Marke.**

Of the Inner Temple, London.

**Johnson, Rev. Mr.**

Librarian of S. Martin's in the  
Fields.

**Elstob, William, Jun<sup>r</sup>.**

Of Lynn.

**Topham, Mr.**

**Williams, Rev. Philip.**

President of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1718; D.D.,  
1730. Public Orator, 1730.

**Taylor, John.**

Senior Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1728; LL.D.,  
1741. Registrar of the University,  
1734-51. In this latter year he  
took holy orders, being then about  
47 years old, and was presented to  
the living of Lawford, co. Essex.  
Afterwards he was Archdeacon of  
Buckingham, and Canon of S.  
Paul's. Before his ordination he  
had been Chancellor of Lincoln.  
Died 1766.

**Green, Rev. John.**

Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1731; D.D.,  
1749. He was Regius Professor of  
Divinity, 1748; Master of Corpus  
Christi College, 1760; Bishop of  
Lincoln, 1761. He was previously  
Dean of Lincoln; and subsequently  
held the Deanery of S. Paul's with  
his bishopric. Died 1779.

**Wade, Hon. Major William.**

**Lambert, Rev. Robert.**

Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1700; D.D.,  
1718. Master of the College, 1727.

**Naylor, Rev. Oliver.**

Chaplain to Lord Onslow.

**Bentham, Rev. James.**

Of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1738. Rector of Stapleford, co. Camb. Minor Canon of Ely, and author of the History of Ely Cathedral. Afterwards in succession Vicar of Wymondham, Rector of Feltwell S. Nicholas, and Rector of Northwold, all in Norfolk. Subsequently he became Canon of Ely, and Rector of Bow-Brickhill, co. Bucks. Died 1794. He was brother of Dr. Edward Bentham, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford.

**Jackson, John.**

**Green, John.**

M.D. of Spalding.

**Staniforth, Rev. William.**

Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1730.

**Newcome, Rev. John.**

Fellow of S. John's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1708; D.D., 1725. Margaret Professor of Divinity, 1727; Master of the College, 1734.

**Chandler, J.**

Of Maidstone.

**Wright, William.**

**Hunter, Thomas Orby.**

Of Crowland.

**Stuart, Alexander.**

M.D. Physician to the Queen.

**Mortimer, Cromwell.**

M.D.; Secretary to the Royal Society.

**Drake, Francis.**

Of York. An eminent antiquary and surgeon; F.R.S., F.S.A. Author of "Eboracum." Died 1771.

**Astley, Jacob.**

Eldest son of Sir Philip Astley, of Norfolk, Bart.

**Knowles, Rev. Richard.**

Rector of Tinwell, co. Rutl.

**Michell, Dr. Robert.**

**Peck, Rev. Francis.**

Of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1713. Rector of Godeby, co. Linc., and Prebendary of Lincoln. The historian of Stamford.

**Austin, Edward.**

Of Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

**Worthington, James.**

**Pearce, Rev. Zachary.**

Of Trinity College, Cambridge; M.A., 1717. Afterwards D.D. (but not of Cambridge) and F.R.S. Rector of Stapleford Abbots, co. Essex; of S. Bartholomew by the Exchange; Vicar of S. Martin's in the Fields. Dean of Winchester, 1739; Bishop of Bangor, 1748; Bishop of Rochester 1756. Died 1774.

**Squire, Samuel.**

Fellow of S. John's College, Cambridge; M.A., 1737; D.D., 1749. Canon and Chancellor of Wells; Archdeacon of Bath; Rector of S. Anne's, Westminster; Vicar of Greenwich; Dean of Bristol, 1760; Bishop of S. David's, 1761. Died 1766.

**St. Pierre, P.**

**Kennedy, Dr.**

M.D. of York Buildings, London.

**Shadwell, Lancelot.**

"An eminent chymist in London."

**Clarke, Joseph.**

Of Ely.

**Gilks, Morton.**

Of Burton-on-Trent, co. Staff.; F.R.S.

**Thornhill, Bache.**

Of Stanton, co. Derby.

**Peyton, Henry.**

Of S. John's College, Cambridge.

Benson, Rev. James.

The blind Rector of Crowland.  
See Vol. IV., pp. 225-7.

Goodhall, William.

Of Tinwell, co. Rutl.

Harries, John.

"A member of this Society now  
[1738] at Jamaica."

Bainbridge, Rev. Mr.

Vicar of Gotherstoke.

Rolls, Mr.

Of Thorney, Apothecary.

Southwell, Henry.

Of Wisbech.

Desaguliers, Rev. John Theophilus.

In the list "Dr. Disaguliers."  
He was D.C.L., and F.R.S. Born  
at Rochelle, in France. Took  
degrees at Christ Church, Oxford.  
Held a living in Norfolk, and  
afterwards one in Essex; and was  
Chaplain to the Prince of Wales.  
Died 1744.

Green, James.

Merchant in London.

Brodie, James.

"A Lieut. Cap<sup>n</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup> right Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Lord Cadogan's Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Dragoons."

Payne, Rev. Squire.

Fellow of Magdalen College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1698. He was  
Chaplain to Bishop Cumberland  
and married his daughter Susanna.  
Rector of Barnack, 1706 till his  
death in 1751. Published life of  
the Bishop, his father-in-law.  
Archdeacon of Stow.

Knight, Samuel.

Of Trinity College, Cambridge;  
M.A., 1706; D.D., 1717. Vicar of  
Chippenham, and Rector of  
Borough Green, co. Camb. 1707;  
Canon of Ely; Rector of Bluntis-  
ham, co. Hunts., 1717; Archdeacon  
of Bucks, 1735. Author of Life of  
Colet. Died 1746.

Falkener, Wright.

Of Whittlesey.

Collins, John.

Pujolas, Mr.

"Son of Rev. Mr. Pujolas of  
Parson Drove."

Gainsborough, Baptist, Earl of.

Hume, Rev. Mr.

Chaplain to the Earl of Lincoln.

Curtis, Robert.

Of the Middle Temple, London.  
Proposed in 1740; but election  
not recorded.

Hutchinson, Rev. Samuel.

Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1745.

Laxton, Rev. Robert.

Fellow of S. John's College,  
Cambridge; M.A., 1746.

Saul, Rev. Mr.

Parnham, Rev. Mr.

Disborow, Mr.

Of Thorney, Steward to the Duke  
of Bedford.

Hawes, Francois.

Innys, William.

Bookseller, S. Paul's Churchyard,  
London.

Beacroft, Rev. Philip.

Fellow of Merton College, Ox-  
ford; D.D. One of the King's  
Chaplains; Secretary to S.P.G.;  
Rector of Stormouth, 1753. At the  
time of his election to the Society  
he was Preacher at the Charter-  
house. Died 1761.

Freke, John.

Surgeon to S. Bartholomew's  
Hospital.

Tunstall, Rev. James.

Fellow of S. John's College, Cam-  
bridge; M.A., 1731; D.D., 1744.  
Public Orator, 1741.

North, Captain.



### 865.—Corpus Christi Gild at Deeping S. James (840).—

Several correspondents have obligingly made suggestions as to the meaning of some difficult words that occurred in the gild accounts lately published. "Hemland" is very possibly hempland. "Knobards," some sort of fish (as it seems) reckoned by sticks, is very likely a local name for eels, for it is still the custom to string eels on a stick or twig of osier. But the word itself cannot be found. "Que" is given in Halliwell as a Lincolnshire word for a cow: and "quey" occurs in some accounts for a heifer. "Queywords" may therefore be connected with the hiring of the gild cow or cows: it may indeed be equivalent to cow-herds; and we know from another entry that the gild at one time let out a cow on hire. With regard to "aylstole," W.W.H. says:—"In Shaw's *Dresses of the Middle Ages*, Vol. I., there are quaint engravings taken from an Anglo-Saxon Calendar, c. 1050; and under April we find a drinking scene represented in honour of the goddess Eostra. 'Three persons, seated in front, are the lords of the feast, and they are drinking from cups of various forms. They are seated on what was called the *medu-benc* (mead-bench) or *ealo-benc* (ale-bench), because it was the kind of seats with which their halls were furnished. The name *stool* and *seat* were applied to seats of ceremony.' I take it that the ale-bench, or the 'ayl-stole,' may refer in some cases to the bench on which the guests sat, in others to the bench on which the barrels were placed in the cellar."

In the Town Bailiff's Accounts (Art. 846) a payment is made "for Scourin part of Horsegate Rought." Bailey gives "Rout (*Route*, F.) a Road or Way." If we may take the additional *gh* as an eccentricity in spelling, the pronunciation being unaffected, this makes the entry intelligible.

Another correspondent says that the word occurs in a book dated 1563, where mention is made of water going to New Dyke and North Dyke "Rofts." It is evidently a water-way of some kind. In the same article "Waing at y<sup>e</sup>" seems a mis-reading for "Waingate."

